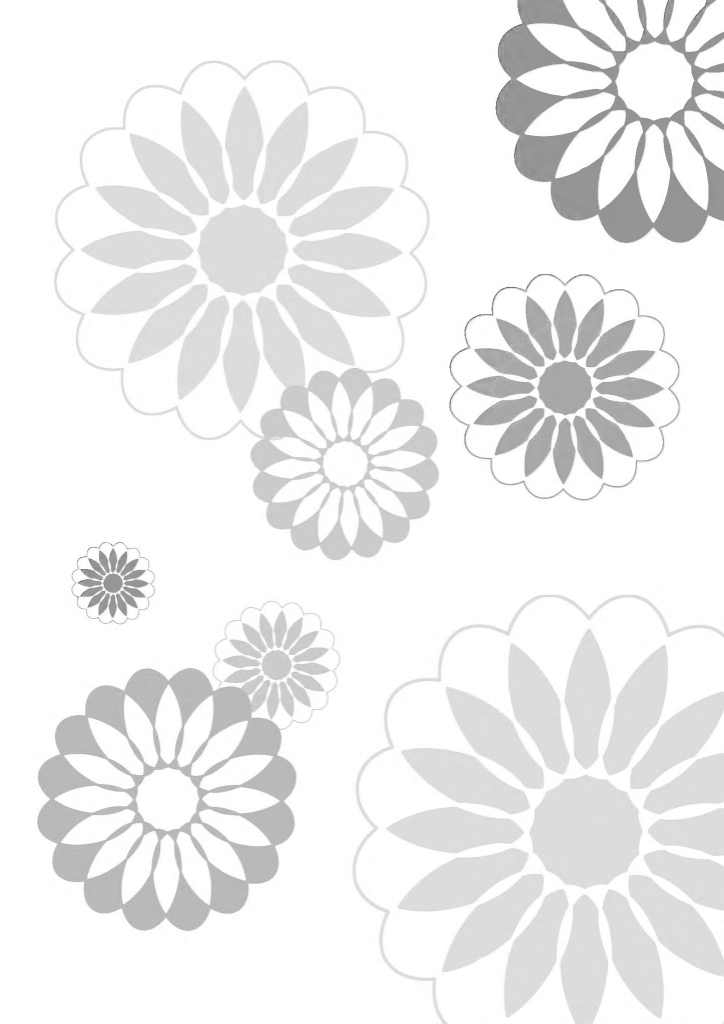
藤島康介

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

ああっ女神さまっ

19

Oh My Goddess!



Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 19

STORY AND ART BY
Kosuke Fujishima

ORIGINAL TRANSLATION BY
Dana Lewis AND Toren Smith

LETTERING AND TOUCHUP BY
Susie Lee AND Betty Dong
WITH Tom2K

DARK HORSE MANGA™

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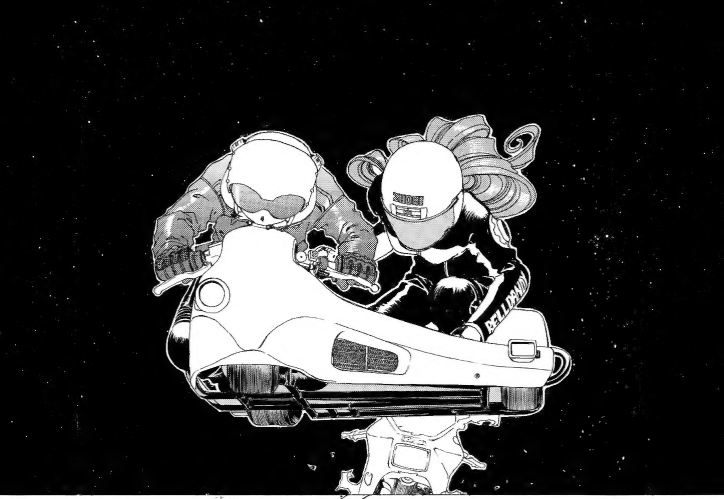
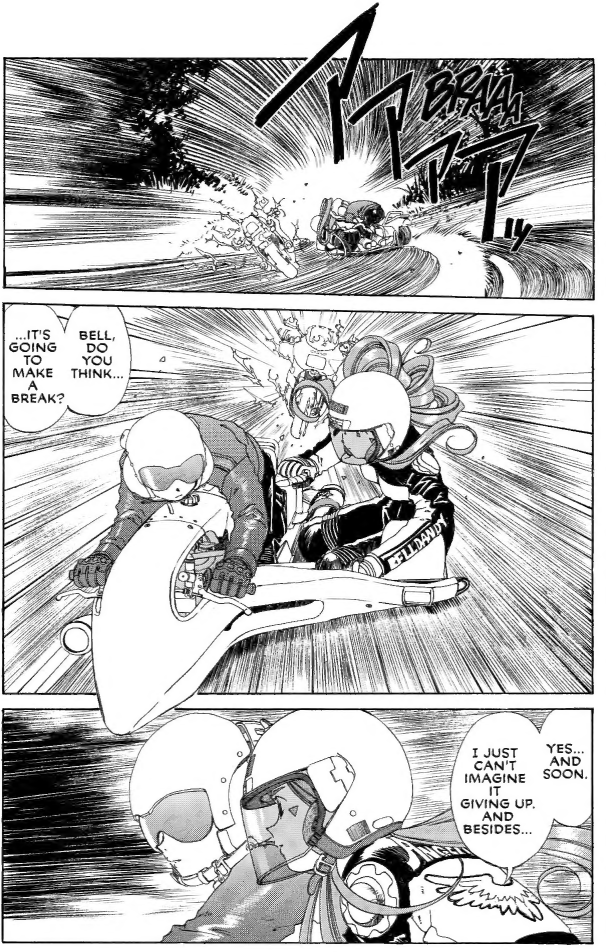
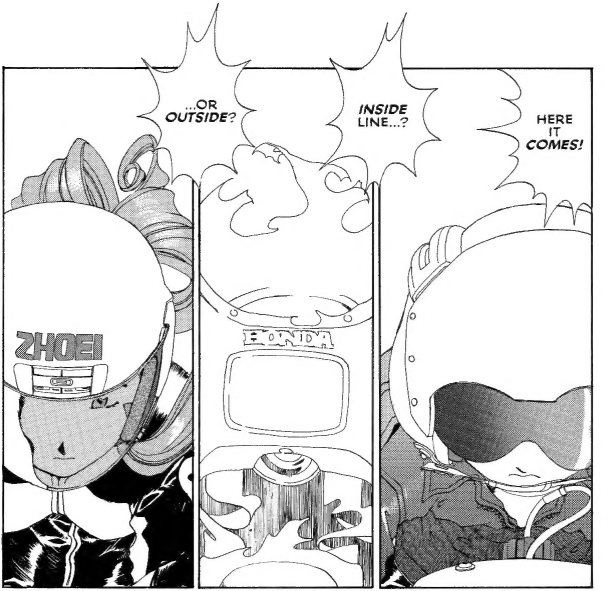


CHAPTER 113

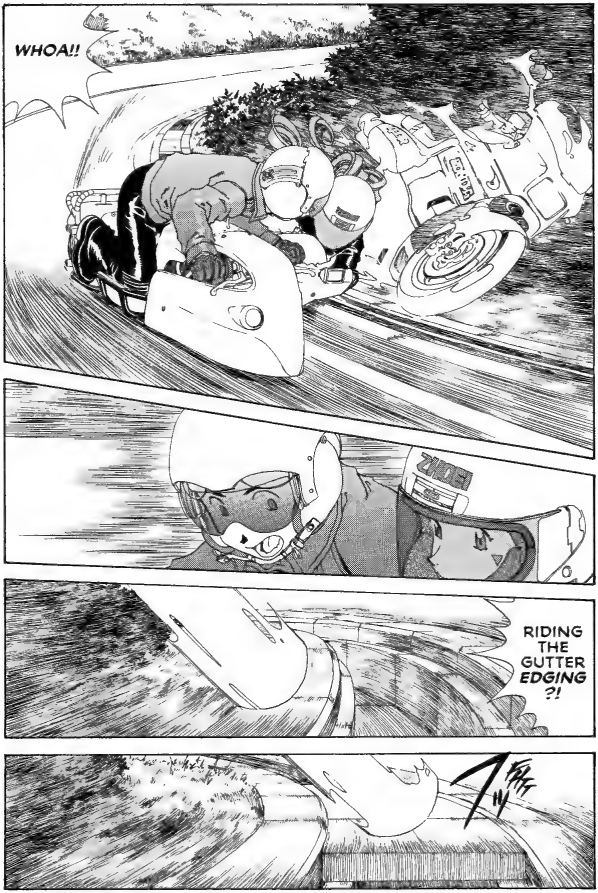
Welcome Back

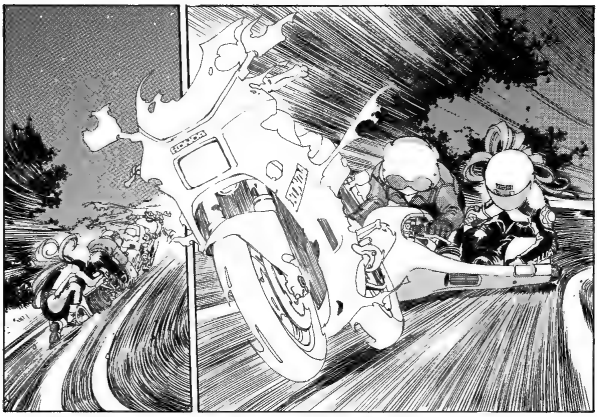

BRAAA
14
...IT'S GOING TO MAKE A BREAK?
BELL, DO YOU THINK...
I JUST CAN'T IMAGINE IT GIVING UP, AND BESIDES...
YES... AND SOON.

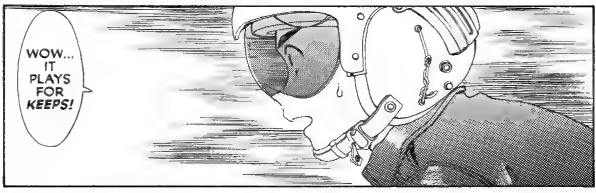
"NO ONE LIKES A BORING ENDING"...
RIGHT ...?
ZHOEI
HEH... I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D UNDER-STAND!


...OR OUTSIDE?
INSIDE LINE...?
HERE IT COMES!
IN!

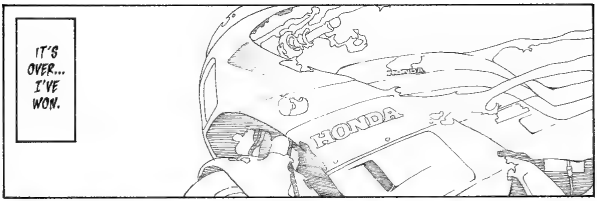
...AND WE'LL BE CUT OFF.
THERE'S AN S-CURVE UP AHEAD... IF IT STAYS IN DEEP, IT DOMINATES THE LINE...
BUT SOME OF THE GUTTER COVERS ARE MISSING...
SO... WHAT'LL YOU DO?
HONDA

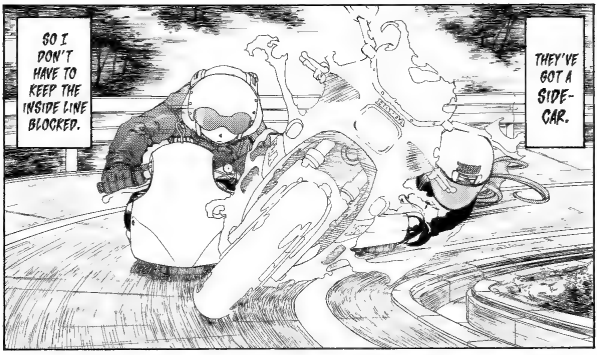

WHOA!!
RIDING THE GUTTER *EDGING* ?!

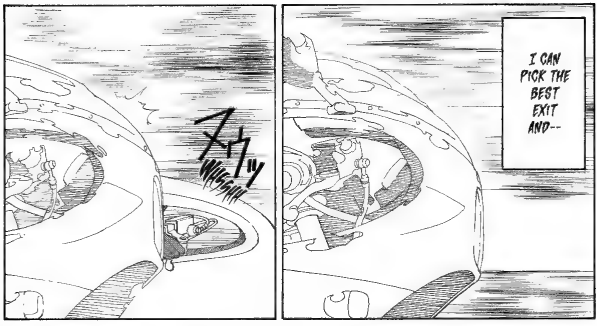



WOW... IT PLAYS FOR *KEEPS!*

AND SO...
...AT *THAT* GAME!
RIGHT! *TWO* CAN PLAY...

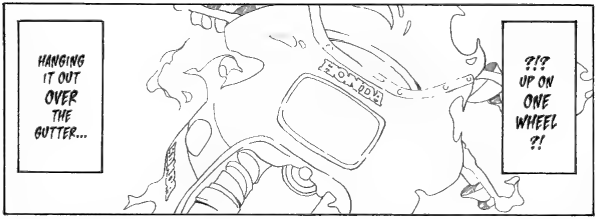

IT'S OVER... I'VE WON.
HONDA

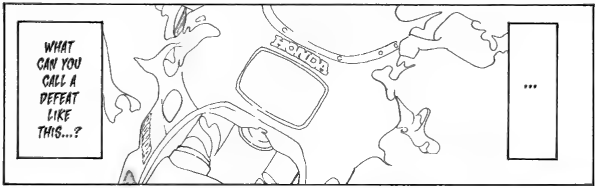

SO I DON'T HAVE TO KEEP THE INSIDE LINE BLOCKED.
THEY'VE GOT A SIDE-CAR.

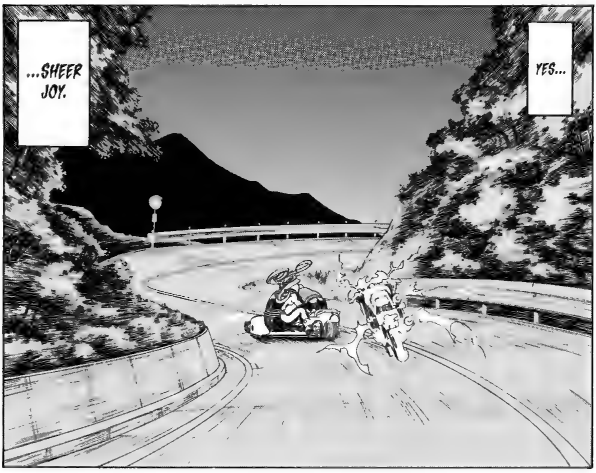

I CAN PICK THE BEST EXIT AND--
WHOOSH

BRAAA

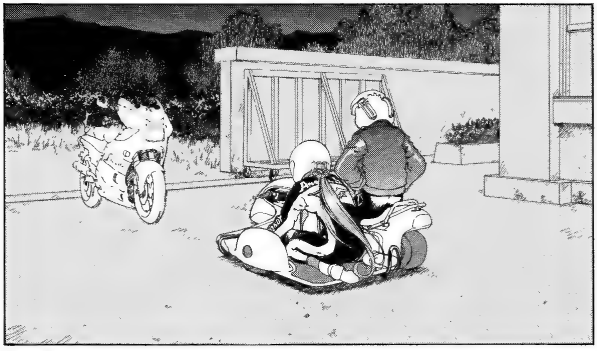
KONOH
HOKOH

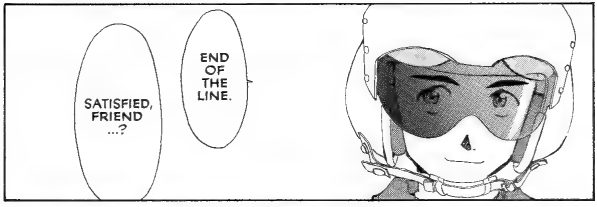

HANGING IT OUT OVER THE GUTTER...
?!? UP ON ONE WHEEL ?!

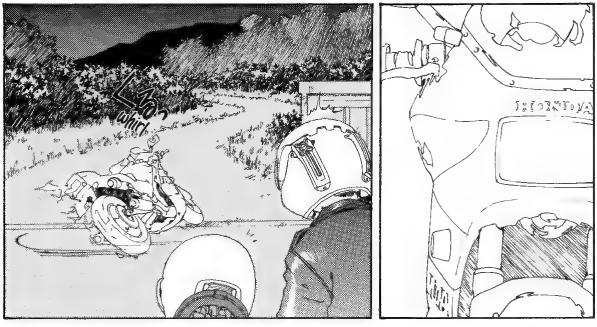

WHAT CAN YOU CALL A DEFEAT LIKE THIS...?
...


...SHEER JOY.
YES...

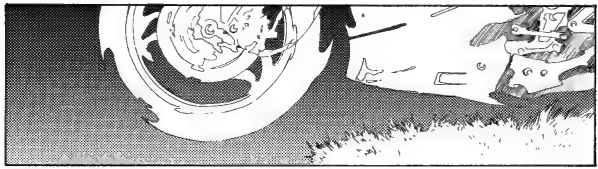
ハロー アース
HONDA

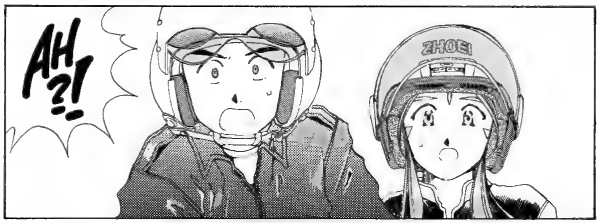


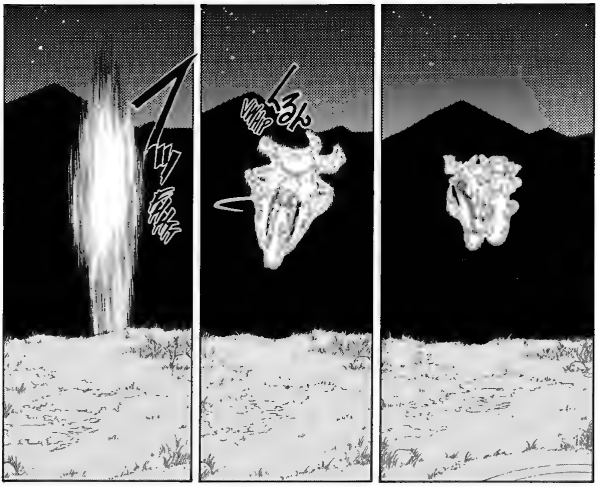

SATISFIED, FRIEND ...?
END OF THE LINE.



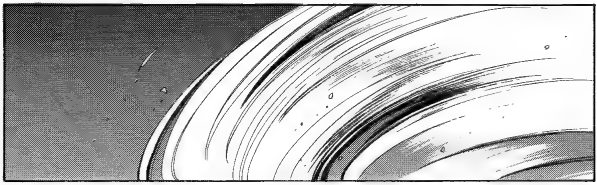
I THINK IT WANTS US TO FOLLOW.
DO IT AGAIN ?!
NO

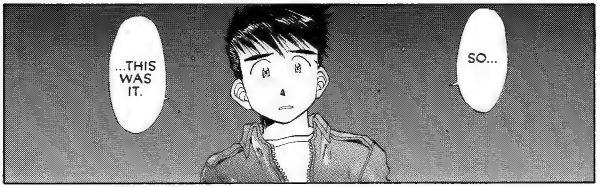


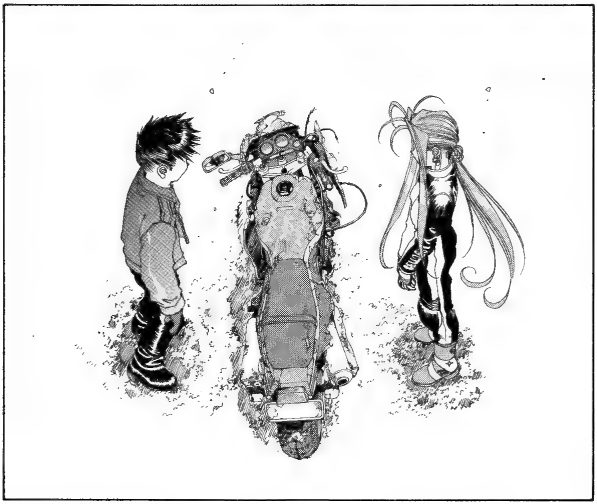

AH?!
ZHOE!


VWWP
VWWP

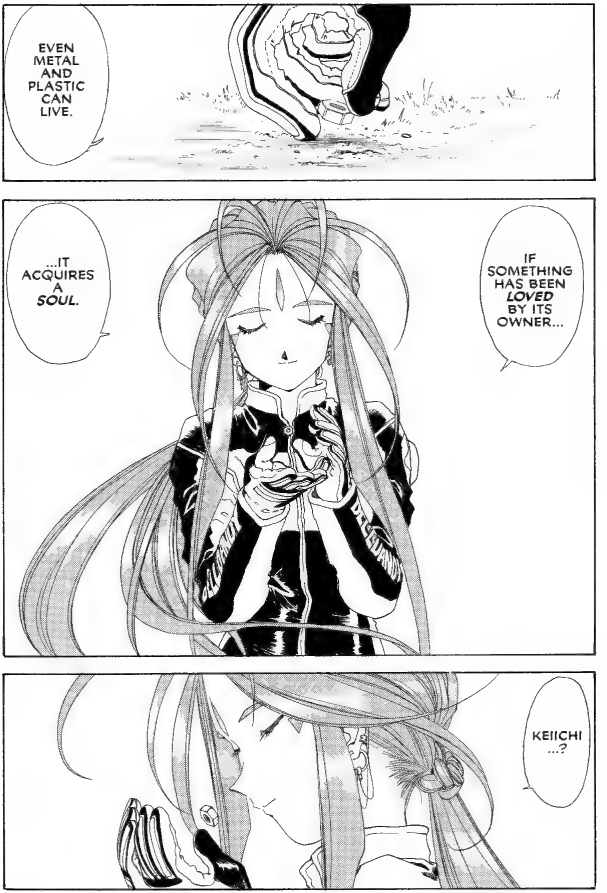
WHOA!
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
WHISH
I THINK...
IT'S DOWN THERE.
EH?




...THIS WAS IT.
SO...

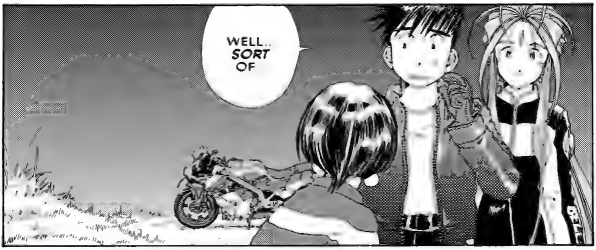


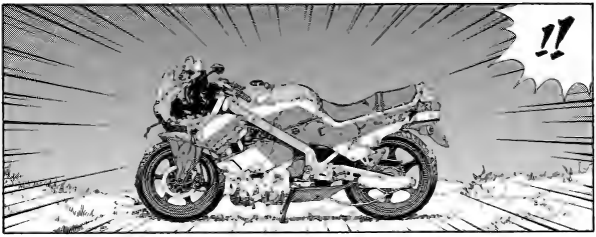
THERE WAS NO *RIDER*, KEIICHI.
OH, NO.
...THE RIDER IS AT PEACE, NOW?
D-DO YOU THINK...
HUH ...?!
THIS *BIKE* WAS THE GHOST.


EVEN METAL AND PLASTIC CAN LIVE.
...IT ACQUIRES A SOUL.
IF SOMETHING HAS BEEN LOVED BY ITS OWNER...
KEIICHI ...?

...THIS SOUL STILL WANTS TO *RUN.*
NO PROBLEM. I CAN FIX IT AND--
ゴオオオ

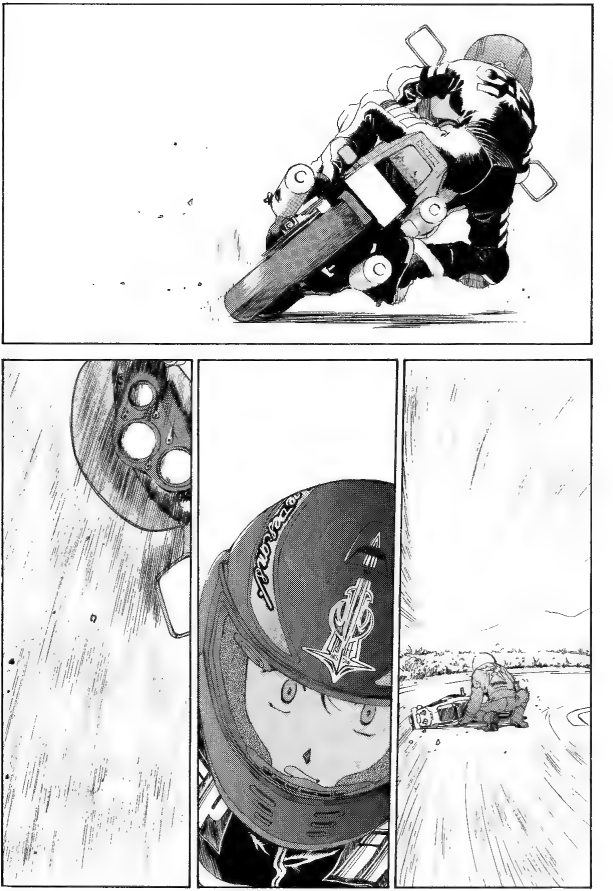
ヒュロロロ
VRMBBB
CHIHIRO ?!
KAWASAKI
オ…
RMBBB
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ...?
HEY, GUYS. I GOT A BIT WORRIED.
SO?
WAS THERE A GHOST?

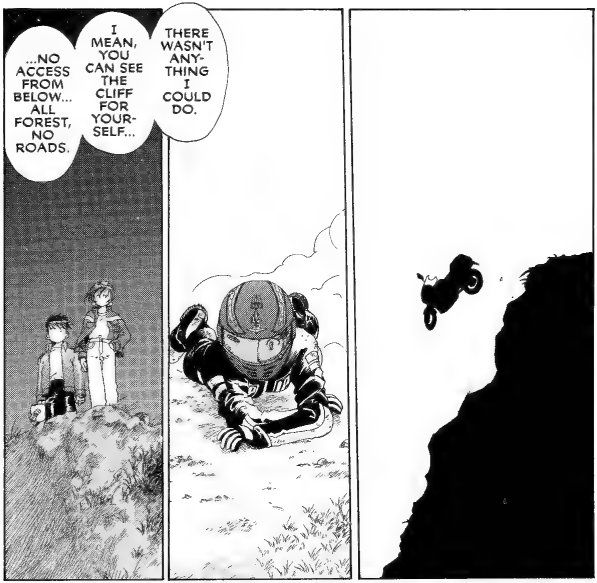

WELL..
SORT
OF


!!

WHAT
THE
--?!
WHIRR

I LEFT IT HERE FIVE YEARS AGO
EH?
IT'S MINE
IT'S WHAT?
IT IT IS
FIVE YEARS AGO




THERE WASN'T ANY-THING I COULD DO.
I MEAN, YOU CAN SEE THE CLIFF FOR YOUR-SELF...
...NO ACCESS FROM BELOW... ALL FOREST, NO ROADS.

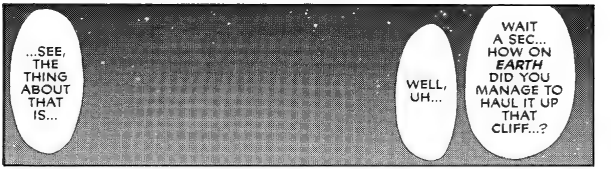
BUT IT'S FUNNY... I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT TRYING AGAIN... SOMEHOW...

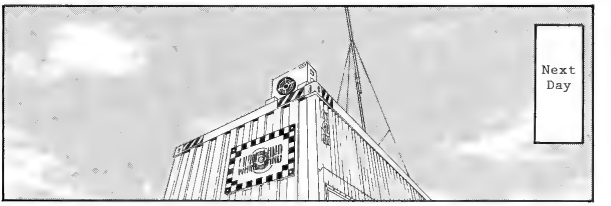
Y-YES, MA'AM?
MORI-SATO
HEY

MIND IF I FIX IT?
THIS OLD BIKE YOU FOUND HERE

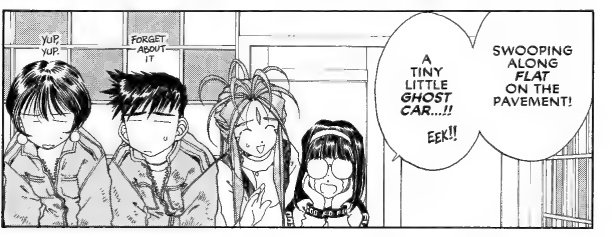
HEH... WHO *BETTER?!*

WELCOME BACK.


WAIT A SEC... HOW ON *EARTH* DID YOU MANAGE TO HAUL IT UP THAT CLIFF...?
WELL, UH...
...SEE, THE THING ABOUT THAT IS...


Next Day

MISS *BELL-DANDY* !!
I...I SAW *ANOTHER* GHOST!

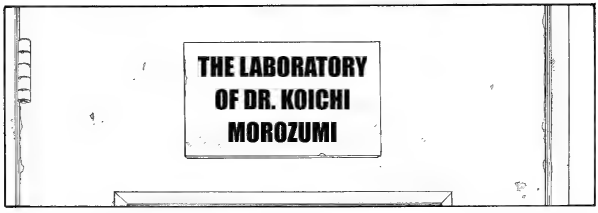

SWOOPING ALONG *FLAT* ON THE PAVEMENT!
A TINY LITTLE *GHOST CAR...!!*
EEK!!
FORGET ABOUT IT
YUP, YUP.

CHAPTER 114

Meet Dr. Moreau!

OH, MAN.
÷sighh÷
IS HE REALLY SO SCARY?
NAW... ...IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.

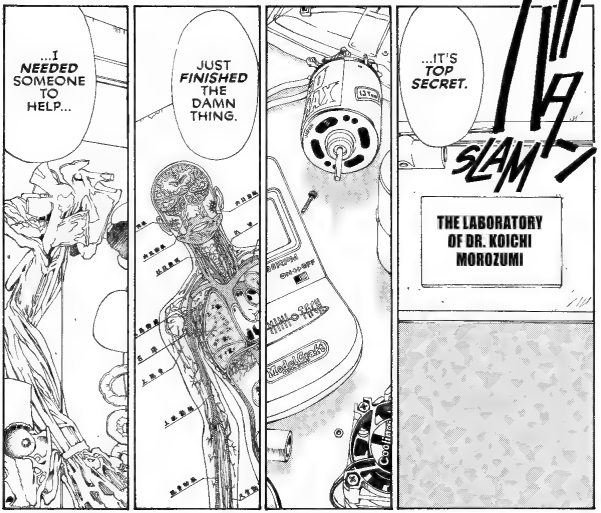
...YOU'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH.
THEN... WHAT IS IT?
SA520KZU


THE LABORATORY OF DR. KOICHI MOROZUMI

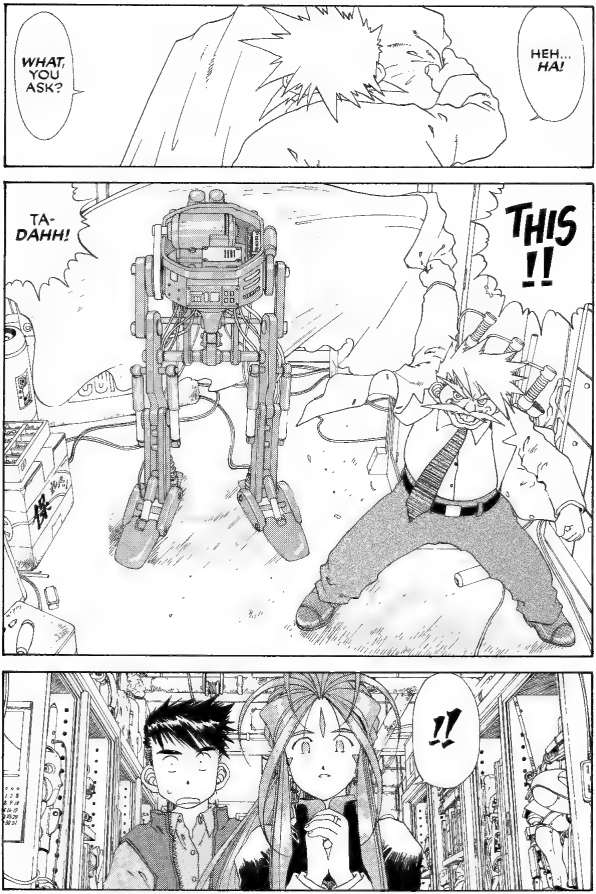
...
THE LABORATORY OF DR. KOICHI MOROZUMI
HEY, DOC ...?
PROFES-SOR?!
SASUKE
...
PK
NEBULA CHA
SA52
...RIGHT.
"DR. MOREAU" ...?
LOOKS LIKE DR. MOREAU ISN'T HERE.
PERFECT.

"DR. MOREAU," IS IT...?
YES... I *HEARD* SOME OF YOU RASCALS CALL ME THAT...

GRAB!
COME RIGHT IN!!
PERFECT TIMING.
THAT'S OKAY, SIR! WE WERE JUST HERE TO DELIVER THAT BOX, SIR...
HO!! SO YOU WANT TO SEE IT TOO, EH, LAD?
SO BE IT! JUST FOR YOU!
BUT DON'T TELL A SOUL...


...I NEEDED SOMEONE TO HELP...
JUST FINISHED THE DAMN THING.
...IT'S TOP SECRET.
SLAM!
THE LABORATORY OF DR. KOICHI MOROZUMI

ER... WHAT DO YOU STUDY, PROFESSOR?
10.


WHAT, YOU ASK?
HEH... HA!
TA-DAHH!
THIS !!
!!

...WHAT IS IT?
THIS, MY DEAR, IS MY AUTONOMOUS BIPEDAL WALKING MACHINE!
MEANING... IT WALKS ON ITS OWN TWO LEGS?
HO! YOU UNDER-STAND!
IS THAT SO DIFFICULT ...?
YOU MAY NOT NOTICE AS YOU TROT ABOUT...
...BUT AUTONOMOUS BIPEDALISM IS FIENDISHLY COMPLEX!

I'VE HEARD THE VERY WORD OF GOD!
HOWEVER... I HAVE MADE A CREATIVE LEAP!
AH HA HA! GO ON, DOC!
EH?
??
I DIDN'T HEAR ANY-THING.
HM!
LIKE... THIS?
VERY WELL, LAD. TRY STANDING ON ONE LEG!

AH--!
AH...
WAUGH!
GO!!
THAP
HEY!! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?!
YOU SEE? EH?!
HUH ...?

BECAUSE... I MOVED MY FOOT TO STOP MYSELF.
AND *WHY* IS *THAT*?!
BECAUSE YOU *PUSHED ME*, PROFESSOR!
JUST NOW, YOU NEARLY *FELL!*
UH... WELL... YEAH...
BUT... YOU *DIDN'T* FALL.
...JUST MOVE THE *OTHER* BEFORE YOU *FALL!*
IN OTHER *WORDS*, IF YOU MOVE *ONE* FOOT...
EXACTLY!

THIS IS WHY I HATE COMING HERE...
TRAPPED LIKE RATS...
SIMPLE! IS!! BEST!!!
YOU DON'T NEED A SPECIAL BALANCING MECHANISM!
HM? WHAT IS IT?
PROFESSOR? MAY I ASK A QUESTION?
IS IT ALL RIGHT TO SHOW "TOP SECRETS" TO STRANGERS ...?
YOU SHALL BE PRESENT FOR THE GLORIOUS FIRST STEP!!
YOU'RE BLESSED, YOUNG ONES!

READY ...?
ASSISTANT AI TURN ON THE SWITCH!
OKAY, OKAY.
BEATS ME...
WHEN DID WE BECOME HIS ASSISTANTS?
YOU'RE MY ASSISTANTS! SO IT'S OKAY!
GCHAK
VREEE
VREEE

KSHANG
KSHANG
KSHANG
KSHANG
KANG
KANG
KANG
KANG

LAND MAX
ASSISTANT A! TURN OFF THE SWITCH!
IT WON'T TURN OFF!
SHAKK SHAKK

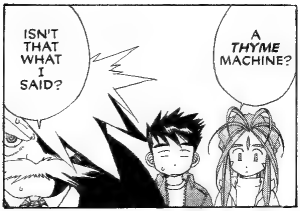
THEN-- WE HAVE NO CHOICE! ASSISTANT A!!
SEIZE IT!!
YES, SIR!
YAAA!!
ROBOT FAIR 97
ピロロッ
ピロロロロロ

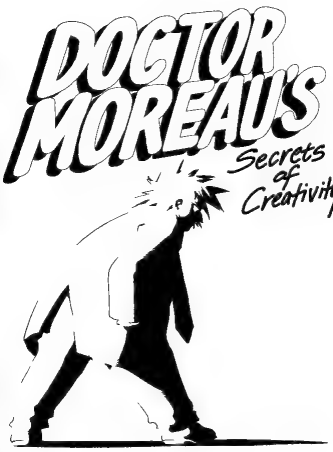
WHAT A REMARK-ABLE MAN.
THAT'S ONE WAY TO PUT IT.
NOT AT ALL!
NOW YOU SEE WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO GO IN?
THINK... JUST WALKING ALONG LIKE THIS SEEMS SO NATURAL AND NORMAL.
BUT WHEN YOU ANALYZE IT IN DETAIL, TRY TO *REPRODUCE* IT...

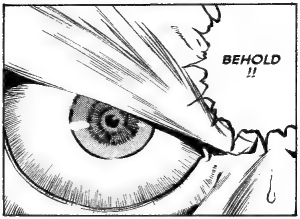
"JUST WALKING" REALLY IS A LITTLE MIRACLE.

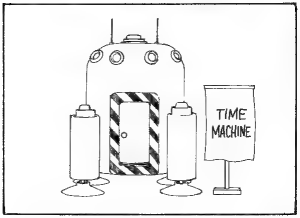
THE LABORATORY OF DR. KOICHI MOROZUMI
...
I WANT THEM TO WALK.
TO MAKE THEM WALK!
ドコッ
TO WALK! TO WALK!!
ドドド

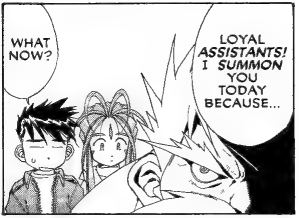
...ARE THEY IN HERE?
LET'S SEE...
...I FORGOT.
HRM...
PK NEBULACHAIN
KZU
MERAJIN 2
WHAT ARE THESE ?!
HRRMM !!
STARBOARD WATCHLAND

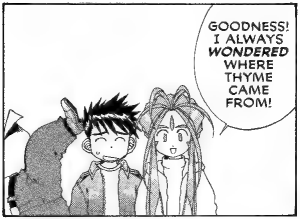

ISN'T THAT WHAT I SAID?
A *THYME* MACHINE?

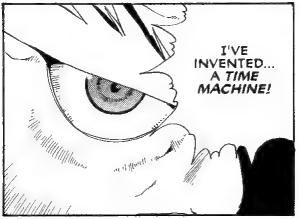

DOCTOR MOREAUS
Secrets of Creativity!


BEHOLD !!


TIME MACHINE


WHAT NOW?
LOYAL *ASSISTANTS!* I *SUMMON* YOU TODAY BECAUSE...


GOODNESS! I ALWAYS *WONDERED* WHERE THYME CAME FROM!


I'VE INVENTED... A *TIME MACHINE!*

CHAPTER 115

Mankind's Dream Shattered

♬
YOUNG MISS CHIHIRO.
SORRY... WE'RE CLOSED FOR BUSINESS.
YOU HAVEN'T LOCKED THE DOOR.

THESE ARE C CLIPS!
I ORDERED E CLIPS.
E CLIP
C CLIP
WAIT! I GOT HERE FIRST!
HOLD YOUR HORSES. I'M LOCKING IT NOW.
OKAY, OKAY...
...WHAT DO YOU WANT?
HMM... WAIT A SEC.
I WANT 'EM NOW.
GOT IT. I'LL REORDER THEM TOMOR-ROW.

MORISATO'S INTO RADIO-CONTROL MODELS.
HE'LL HAVE E CLIPS.
WAIT A MINUTE. I'LL DRAW YOU A MAP.
WON'T YOU GO GET THEM FOR ME...?
NO.
YOU SEE...
HM?
...THE BASIC PROBLEM WAS THIS SHEET OF... OF WORM TRACKS, PROFESSOR!!
HM...
DOCK COMCHAIN 2 METERS RING 10 MM BOLT 15 MM BOLT CORING

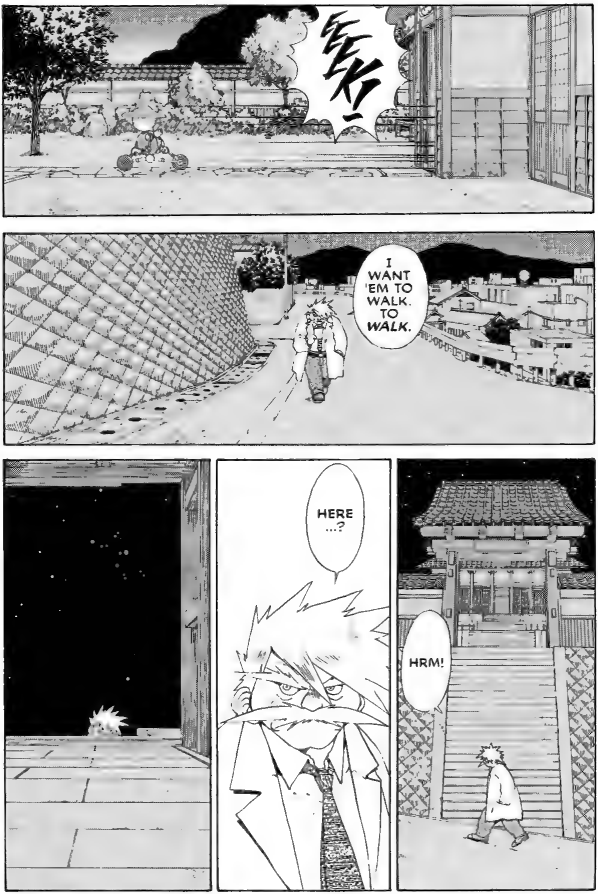
FIRST YOU EXPECT ME TO DECIPHER THIS MESS!!
AND THEN, WHEN I GENEROUSLY INTRODUCE YOU TO AN AFTER-HOURS SUPPLIER...
YOU NEVER CHANGE, DOCTOR!
...YOU ORDER ME TO GO GET THEM?! WHEN I'VE ALREADY CLOSED FOR THE DAY?!
HM... YES. BAD OF ME.
I'LL GO GET THEM.
OH, NO YOU DON'T! THIS TIME YOU HEAR ME OUT!
NOW, MISS CHIHIRO... IT'S PAST YOUR CLOSING TIME.
OH, NO IT'S NOT!! I HAVEN'T LOCKED THE DOOR!!

I TOLD YOU A MILLION TIMES...
...GET AWAY FROM ME!!

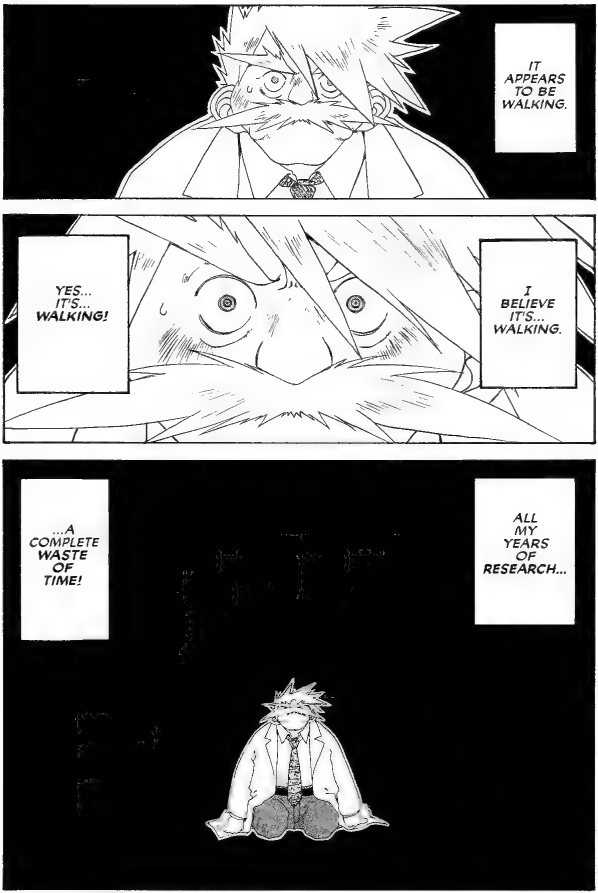
THEY'RE SO FOND OF EACH OTHER.
YOU CALL THAT *FOND* ?!
WHY, YES ...!

THAT *DOES* IT! I HATE TO USE THIS TRICK, BUT...
HYAAA!
UM...

AH, DARN.
SHHH! SHUT UP, OKAY?!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONG TO...
H-HEY!!


EEKI-
I WANT 'EM TO WALK. TO WALK.
HERE ...?
HRM!

ピキーン
ピキーン
ピキーン
ぺたん

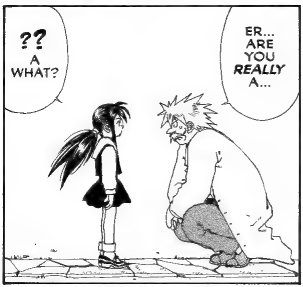

IT APPEARS TO BE WALKING.
I BELIEVE IT'S... WALKING.
YES... IT'S... WALKING!
ALL MY YEARS OF RESEARCH...
...A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME!

YES, IT MAY WALK!
NO!! NOT SO!!
BUT OUR DREAM...
...MANKIND'S DREAM... IS THE ARTIFICIAL HUMAN!
TALKING !!
RUNNING!

OUR DREAM IS NOTHING LESS THAN... A TRUE ANDROID!
LAUGH-ING! SMILING!
ROCKET PUNCH!
KIIIN!
KWANG!

KCHAK
!!
?
Uhh!
MISS
THERE! LEARNED YOUR LESSON?

WELCOME! THANK YOU FOR COMING!
OH ...?
!!
TAP TAP TAP
WE HAVE A GUEST?


ER... ARE YOU *REALLY* A...
?? A WHAT?

R...
RRR ...!
ROCKET PUNCH!

...ANDROID DREAM!
...ROCKET-PUNCH-ING...
MAN-KIND'S DREAM...
OUR WALKING... TALKING...
RUNNING..
LAUGHING... SMILING...

SO...
HE'S ONE OF MY PROFS.
...WHO'S THE OLD COOT?
HE'S A PERVERT!
HE'S... WEIRD, I'LL GRANT YOU THAT..

HE PULLED UP MY *SKIRT!* LIKE *THIS!*
I SEE.
SHE'S FIXING BANPEI.
WHERE'S SKULD?
EEK!
...

EEE--
OW.
NO.
HOW 'BOUT YOU SHUT UP?
LISTEN TO YOU, SQUEALING AWAY...
...AS IF YOU'VE GOT ANYTHING TO SEE!
MMNG
OH, YEAH?! YOU'D SQUEAL, TOO!
SOME OF US ARE MORE MATURE THAN THAT, KID.
AH, HA... THE SLEEPER AWAKES.

gasp!
BY GOD!! ARE YOU ANOTHER ONE?!
FWAP

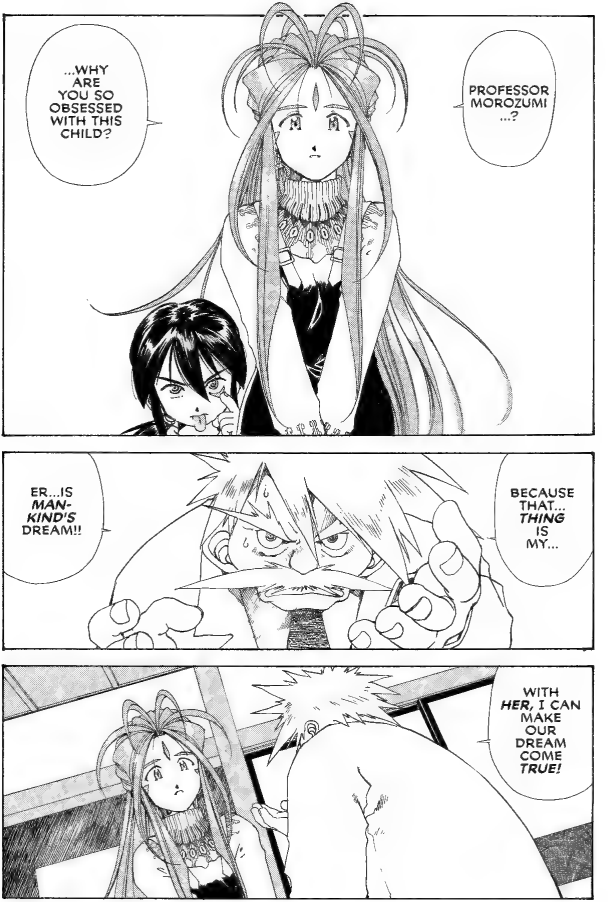
OKAY, YOU'RE RIGHT. HE *IS* A PERVERT.
TOLD YA.
ミシュウ
...JUST WANT-ED...
I...
DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO *BLUNT*, GUYS?
HE *IS* A PERVERT... BUT HE'S *ALSO* A *PROFES-SOR.*
UH-HUH!
I THINK I GET IT NOW.
HMM... OKAY.

...TO SEE YOUR HIPS!!
EWW... DISGUSTING. THIS GUY DOES WANT TO LOOK UNDER YOUR SKIRT.
LIKE I SAID... A PERVERT.
DID I SAY UNDER YOUR SKIRT? HE WANTS TO LOOK AT YOUR WHOLE BODY!
THAT'S TOTALLY GROSS!
NO! LISTEN TO ME!
I WANT TO SEE EVERYTHING... NOT JUST THE HIP JOINTS!

...NOT SO! WHAT I REALLY WANT TO DO IS--
HA...
HEH HEH..
--THIS!!
I'LL DISAS-SEMBLE YOU...
...AND STUDY YOU...
...PIECE BY PIECE!!

HA, HAA... NOT REALLY?
...
OOH! NO FAIR!!
I HATE TO USE THIS TRICK, BUT...
RAARGGH!
I SAID...
...

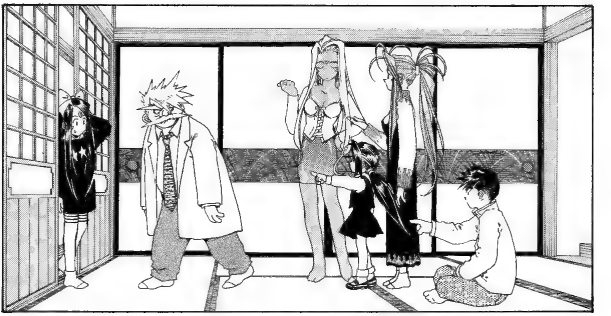
NYA HA HA HA!
EEK!
COME TO THINK OF IT... WHAT AM I RUNNING FOR?
HEH HEH HEH..
SHHH! SHUT UP, OKAY?!
...GET OFF OF ME!!
HA--
SMOOSH

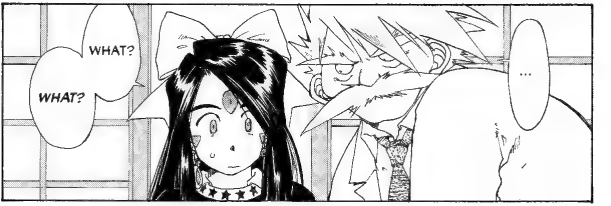

...WHY ARE YOU SO OBSESSED WITH THIS CHILD?
PROFESSOR MOROZUMI ...?
ER...IS *MAN-KIND'S* DREAM!!
BECAUSE THAT... *THING* IS MY...
WITH *HER,* I CAN MAKE OUR DREAM COME *TRUE!*

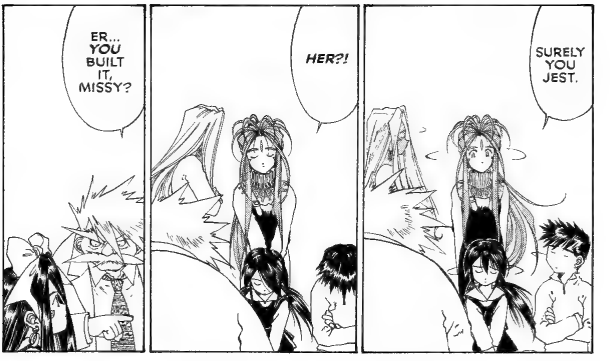
...A TRUE ANDROID!
I CAN BUILD...
I'M SORRY, PROFESSOR...
...BUT YOU SHALL NOT HAVE HER.

YOU CAN'T TOUCH HER... BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T WISH IT.
HM. I SUPPOSE IT'S POSSIBLE.
HA! BECAUSE SHE'LL SELF-DESTRUCT?
KA-BOOM...
EH?
BUT...
...THAT'S NOT WHY.
....
?!

IT'S JUST A PRO-GRAM!!
HOW ABSURD.
DOESN'T WISH ...?
...
SO WHERE IS HE...?!
カチャ
KSHAK
LET ME SPEAK WITH ITS INVENTOR! I'M SURE HE'LL BE MORE REASON-ABLE!
LOOK, FIGHT WITH HIM IF YOU MUST, BUT PLEASE... A LITTLE RESTRAINT?
SHEESH, THAT TOOK FOREVER.



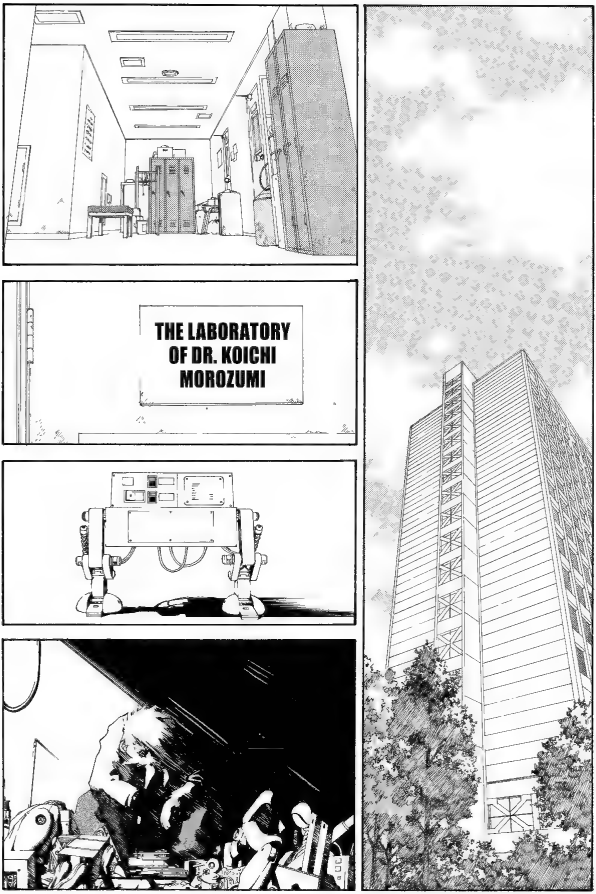

WHAT?
WHAT?
...

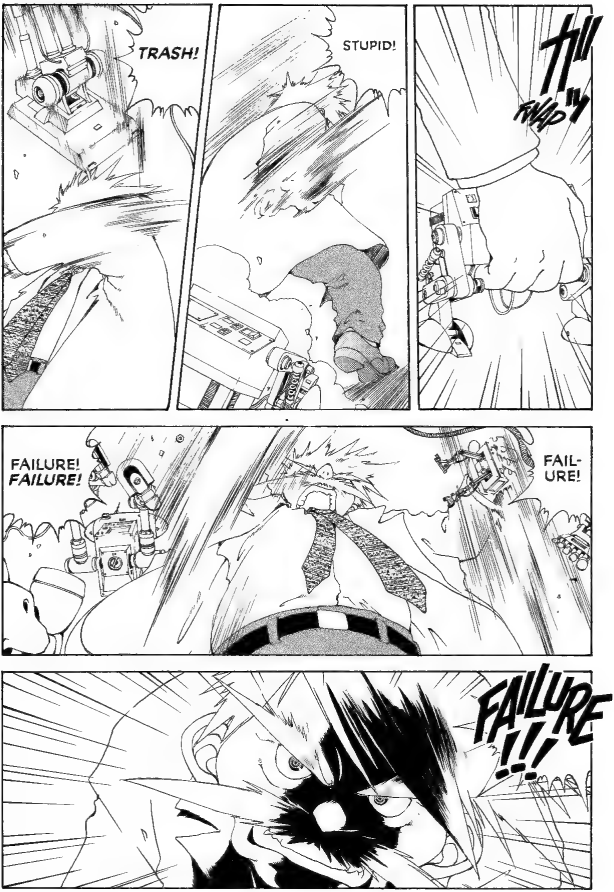

ER... YOU BUILT IT, MISSY?
HER?!
SURELY YOU JEST.

I SURE DID!
ISN'T SHE AWE-SOME?!
MAN-KIND'S DREAM...
THE HANDS OF A CHILD...
MY LIFE'S WORK...
WELL, THERE HE GOES AGAIN.
OUT LIKE A LIGHT
WHAT IS GOING ON?
PROF! ARE YOU OKAY?!
HA HA HA
HMPH! SERVES HIM RIGHT!!

CHAPTER 116

The Trap of Dr. Moreau

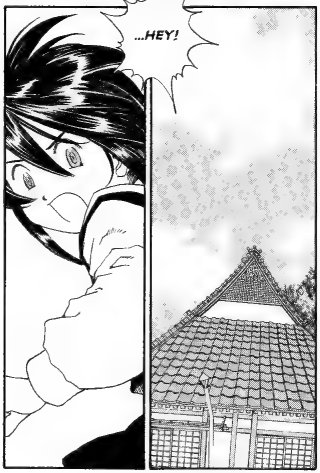

THE LABORATORY
OF DR. KOICHI
MOROZUMI


TRASH!
STUPID!
FAILURE!
FAILURE!
FAIL-
URE!
FAILURE!!!

...
AI...
SKREEK
...A SCIENTIFIC TREASURE TROVE...
MAN-KIND'S DREAM...
ストン
FWMP

NO...
IS IT *RIGHT*, EH? TO *HOARD* IT FOR *YOURSELF*, *EH?!*
...NO! IT'S *EVIL!!*
THAT *MACHINE* IS A TREASURE FOR *ALL MANKIND!*
IT'S MY...

...MY RIGHT TO DIS-ASSEMBLE IT!


...HEY!

...DON'T YOU HAVE ANY LEARNING CIRCUITS?!
EAGH!
SCREEEE

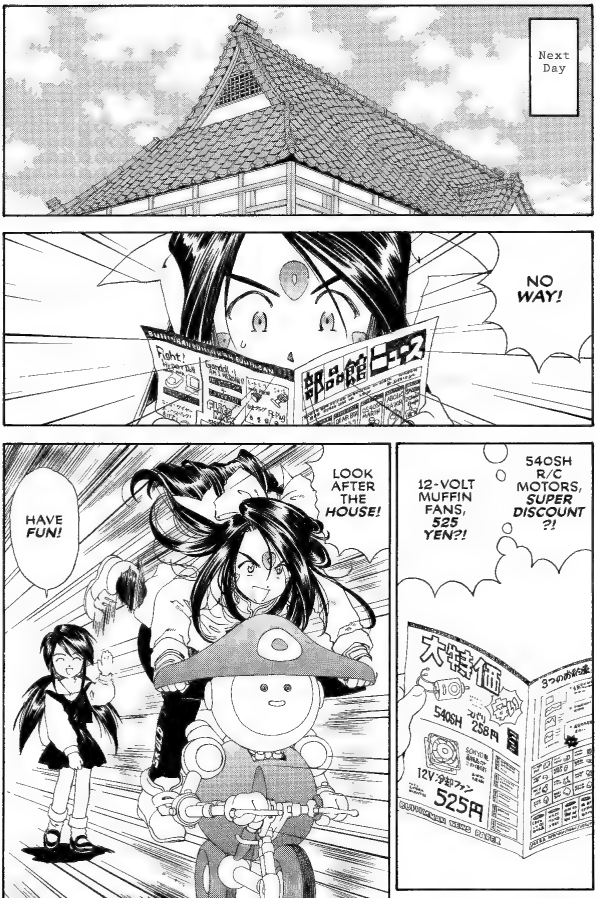
I THOUGHT I SAW... BUT... SENSOR ERROR?
...?
SKREEE
...
WHAM
GUNK

きゅうぅ〜ん
YOU JUST NEVER GIVE UP, DO YOU...?
I GOT IT! GOT IT!
WHAT DID YOU GET?

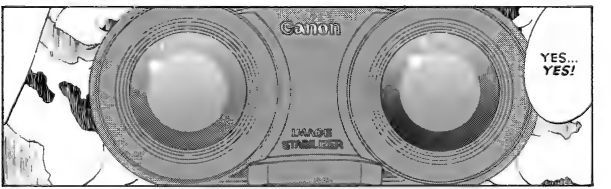
HA!!
IT WAS
HIM!!
UWAHH!!
ROCKET
PUNCH!!
FOOM
ポスッ
ポスッ…
ポスッ…
FWEEEEE

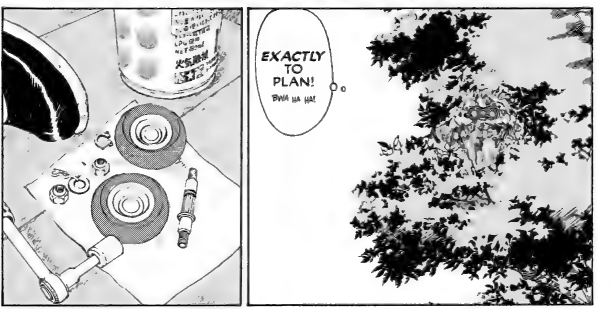
OH! BUT--
WELL, I MUST BE GOING!
OOH! WHAT A TIME FOR MY HYPERGOLIC PROPELLANT TO GIVE OUT!
HEH HEH HEH ...!
EUREKA... EUREKA !!
HA HA HA HA HA !!
SEE YOU IN YOUR DREAMS!
KO-NAKI JIJI...?*

*A legendary ghost of old Japan. Famous for making children cry in their sleep.


Next Day
NO WAY!
LOOK AFTER THE HOUSE!
HAVE FUN!
540SH R/C MOTORS, SUPER DISCOUNT ?!
12-VOLT MUFFIN FANS, 525 YEN?!
525円

AAH... FOR ONCE I CAN RELAX.


Canon
IMAGE STABILIZER
YES... YES!


EXACTLY TO PLAN!
BWA HA HA!

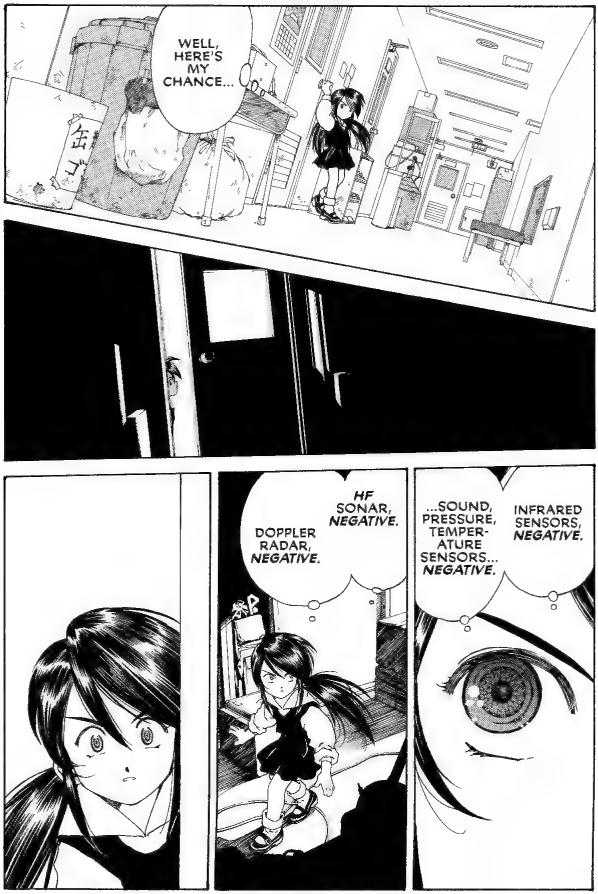
ジコー
ジコー
ジコー

...I BRING MESSAGE... ABOUT YOUR BOYFRIEND!
I AM BLACK SILVER...
ONLY... IF YOU DO NOT...
FOLLOW... OR NOT.
FOLLOW... THIS MAP...
CHANGE
MY WHAT ...?!

SPRANG!
ドカン!
...YOUR PRECIOUS BOYFRIEND WILL--
ROCKET PUNCH!
WHY, YOU...
しゅぱーん
ABSOLUTELY UNFORGIV-ABLE!
THIS IS UNFORGIV-ABLE.

HE IS NOT MY BOY-FRIEND!!

カリ
KC
DOWN THERE ...?
危険
高電圧
IT'S HIM, ALL RIGHT!


WELL, HERE'S MY CHANCE...
缶ゴ
DOPPLER RADAR, NEGATIVE.
HF SONAR, NEGATIVE.
...SOUND, PRESSURE, TEMPER-ATURE SENSORS... NEGATIVE.
INFRARED SENSORS, NEGATIVE.

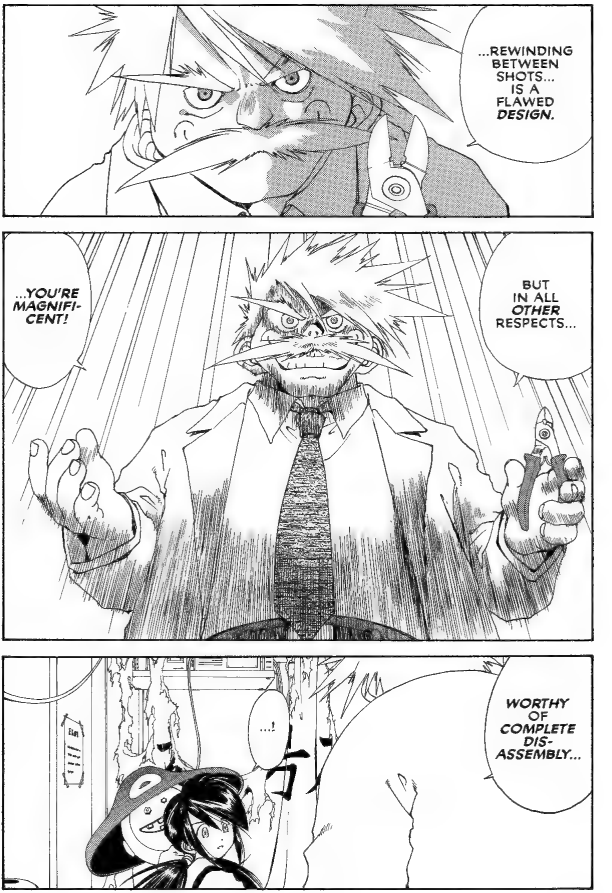
WHERE?
WHAT AM I SO RELIEVED ABOUT?!
AH-- EH?!
YES!! THAT'S ALL! HONEST!
I WAS JUST RELIEVED HE DIDN'T KIDNAP MISTRESS SKULD!
NO, NO, NO, NO, NOOO!!

WAIT... I DON'T HAVE *TIME* FOR THIS!
COME ON, BANPEI...
...LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...
YOU'RE NOT--?!
WHIRRING
WHIRRING

GCHAK
HEH, HEH... YOU CAME. JUST AS I *PREDICTED*--
WHAT'S THE BIG *IDEA*?!

--TO SAVE YOUR PRECIOUS BOY-FRIEND.
WHIT
BTAM!
ROCKET PUNCH!!
HE'S NOT PRECIOUS! AND HE'S NOT MY BOY-FRIEND!!
KSNK

WHEN YOU KNOW IT'S COMING, ANYONE CAN DODGE--
KBOOM
A FLAWED PROGRAM.
CAN'T FIRE WITHOUT SAYING "ROCKET PUNCH," EH?
H-HE DODGED IT?!
I... I SEE.
NO, I JUST LIKE SAYING IT.
AND YET--
KSHK

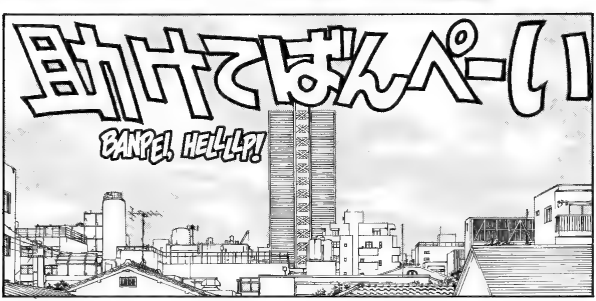

...REWINDING BETWEEN SHOTS... IS A FLAWED *DESIGN.*
BUT IN ALL *OTHER* RESPECTS...
...YOU'RE MAGNIFI-CENT!
WORTHY OF COMPLETE DIS-ASSEMBLY...
...!

HELP! BANPEI!!
HELP!!!
IT'S MY LAST RESORT...
...AND I HATE TO DO IT...

CHAPTER 117

Person or Machine?

...I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
THOUGH I REALLY DON'T WANT TO...
YOU MUST BE... STUDIED.
YES...

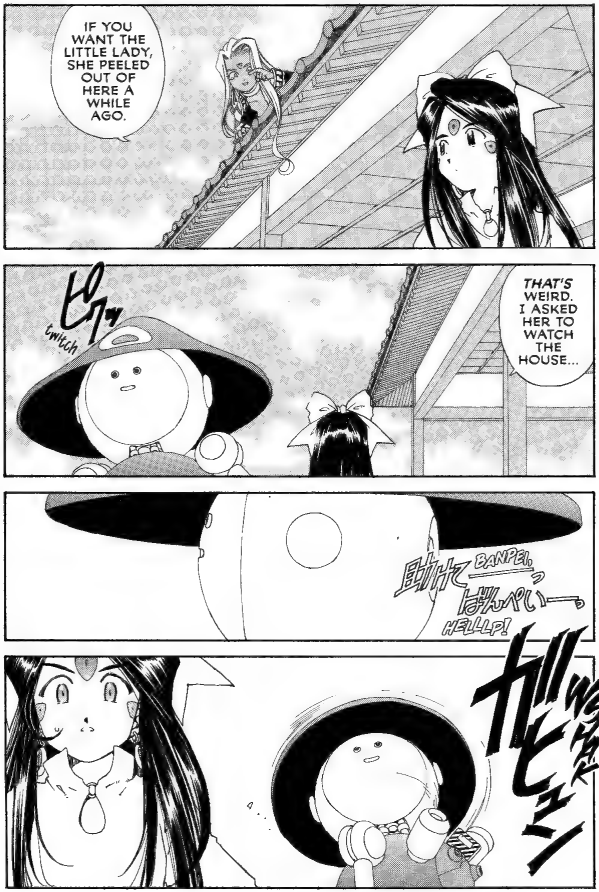

助けてばんぺーい
BANPEI, HELP!

VREEEH..
MONTHLY Hentaitea

KSHH
レーニッ
WOO
ドーニッ

I'M SO ANGRY!!
OOOH!
WHAT A RACKET...
WHOO
KRCH
..YOU KNOW, TALKING TO YOURSELF IS THE FIRST SIGN OF INSANITY.
THIS STUPID AD WAS FROM LAST MONTH!!

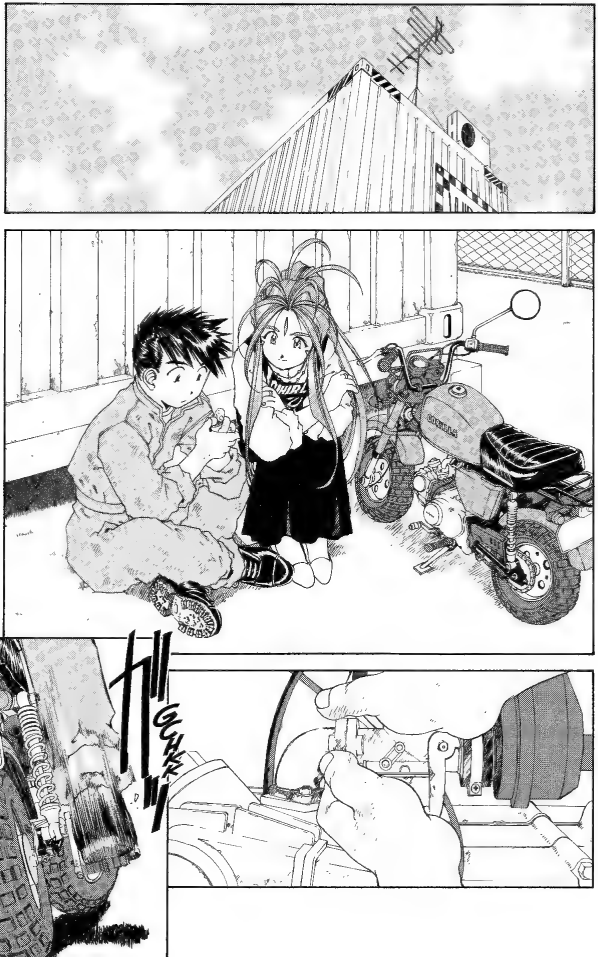
pound
pound
I FORGOT... SHE WENT THERE WITH ME LAST MONTH.
BOY, DO I FEEL DUMB...
I NEED YOU TO ANALYZE THIS AD...
HEY! ROBO!


IF YOU WANT THE LITTLE LADY, SHE PEELED OUT OF HERE A WHILE AGO.
THAT'S WEIRD. I ASKED HER TO WATCH THE HOUSE...
ヒクッ
twitch
助けて BANPEI, はんぺい〜, HELLP!
カリカリ
scratch

WHOOSH
BTAM
SKULD LABS
HUH?
UM...

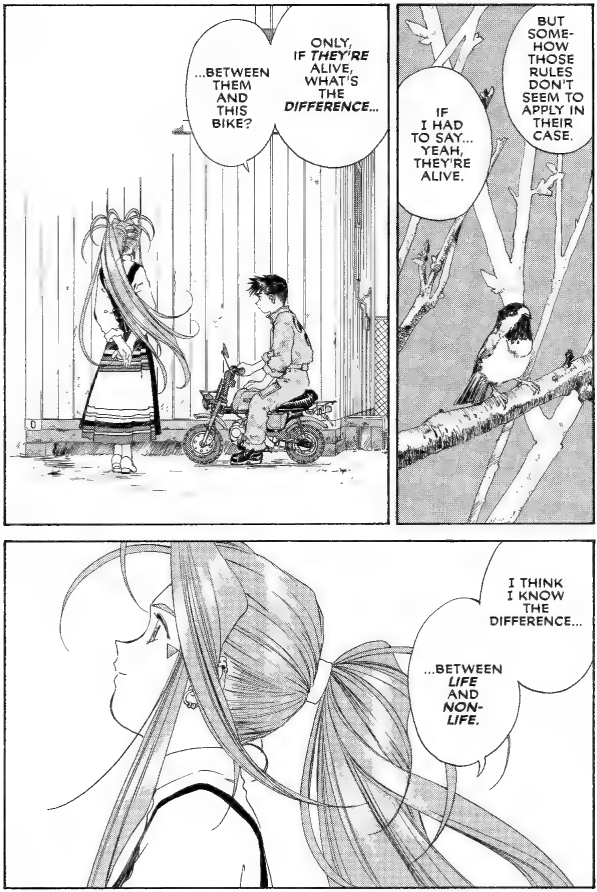
CHAK
SHAKK
SHING
BREEP!
CHANK!
SHKK
CLK
VREE
I WONDER IF HE'S FIXING SOMETHING?
SOUNDS MORE LIKE BREAKING SOMETHING.
!!
FWHAM

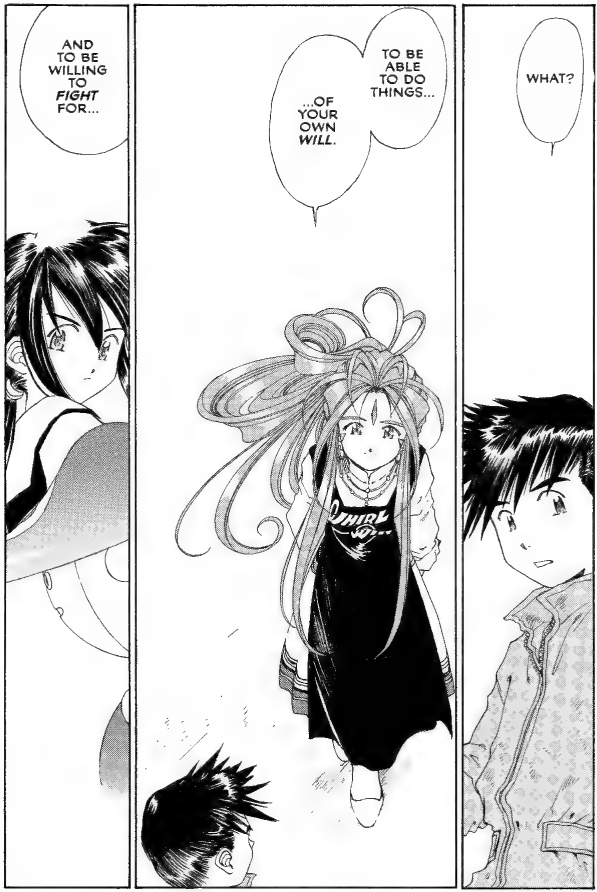
TOO MUCH INFORMATION.
...THAT WAS A "JET PROPELLER DRIVE MEDIUM DEPTH UNDERWATER PROPULSION SYSTEM POWERED SLAVE ARM DRILL ARM CATERPILLAR TRACTION AND EVERY OTHER MODE" BANPEI.
HMM. I THINK...
ROARRRRRR
GOOD QUES-TION...
MORE TO THE POINT.. WHY?
??
WHAT TH--?!


GUNN!!

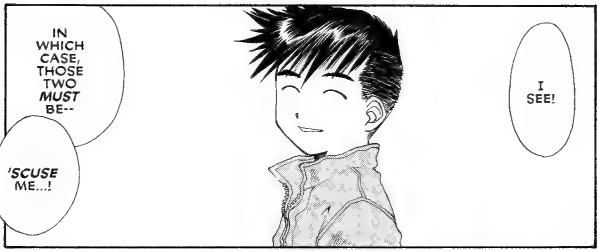
BRMM
BRUPPPPPPPPP
BRPPPP
GOT IT!
MOTOR-BIKES ARE SO *AMAZING.*
SO MANY DIFFERENT *FACES...*
...THEY'RE *INANIMATE* SPIRITS...
...YET THEY ALMOST SEEM *ALIVE.*

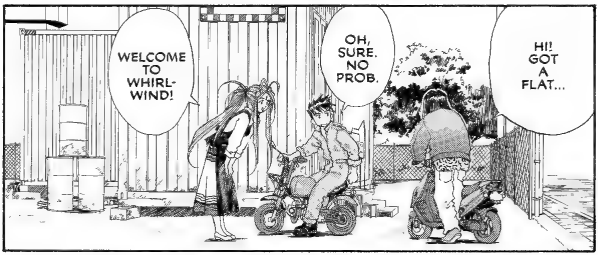
BRAAAPPP
DON'T THEY?
...
BELL... ARE BANPEI AND THE WELCOME ROBOT...
...ALIVE?
MAN, THAT'S A TOUGH ONE.
IF YOU WENT BY THE USUAL DEFINI-TIONS--SEEKING FOOD, REPRO-DUCTION--THEN, NO.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, KEIICHI?

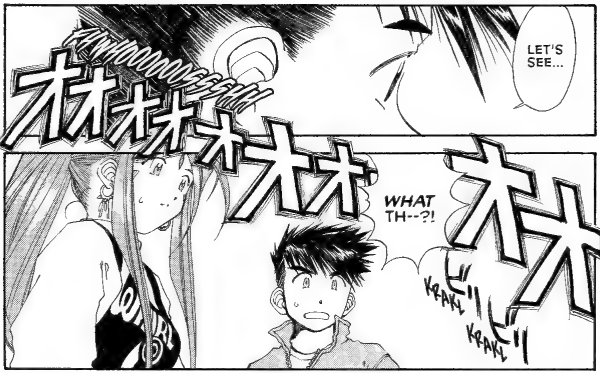

...BETWEEN THEM AND THIS BIKE?
ONLY, IF *THEY'RE* ALIVE, WHAT'S THE *DIFFERENCE...*
IF I HAD TO SAY... YEAH, THEY'RE ALIVE.
BUT SOME-HOW THOSE RULES DON'T SEEM TO APPLY IN THEIR CASE.
I THINK I KNOW THE DIFFERENCE...
...BETWEEN *LIFE* AND *NON-LIFE.*


AND TO BE WILLING TO *FIGHT* FOR...
...OF YOUR OWN *WILL*.
TO BE ABLE TO DO THINGS...
WHAT?

...THE RIGHT TO LIVE.


I SEE!
IN WHICH CASE, THOSE TWO *MUST* BE--
'*SCUSE* ME...!


HI! GOT A FLAT...
OH, SURE. NO PROB.
WELCOME TO WHIRL-WIND!

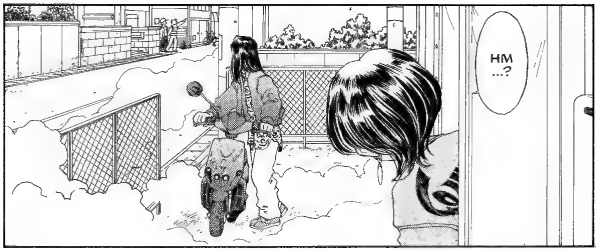

LET'S SEE...
WHAT TH--?!
KRAK!!
KRAK!!

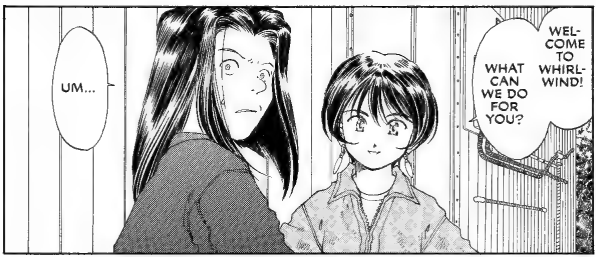
SSSH

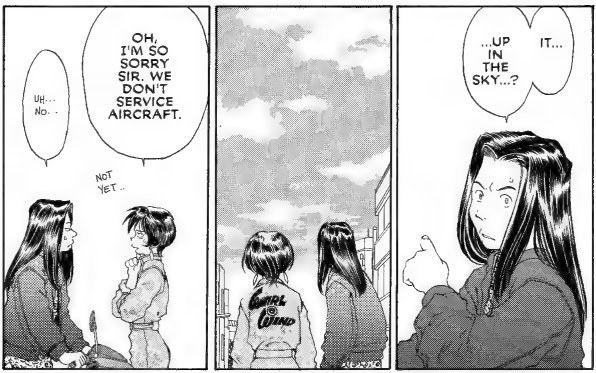
ヤヤヤ
ヴィロロロロロロ

オオオオオオ
FUMSHHH
ズゥゥン
ドォン
FOAKK

CHIHIRO! LUNCH BREAK!
HAH?
...HE WAS HEADED FOR CAMPUS!
MORISATO! WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?!


HM ...?

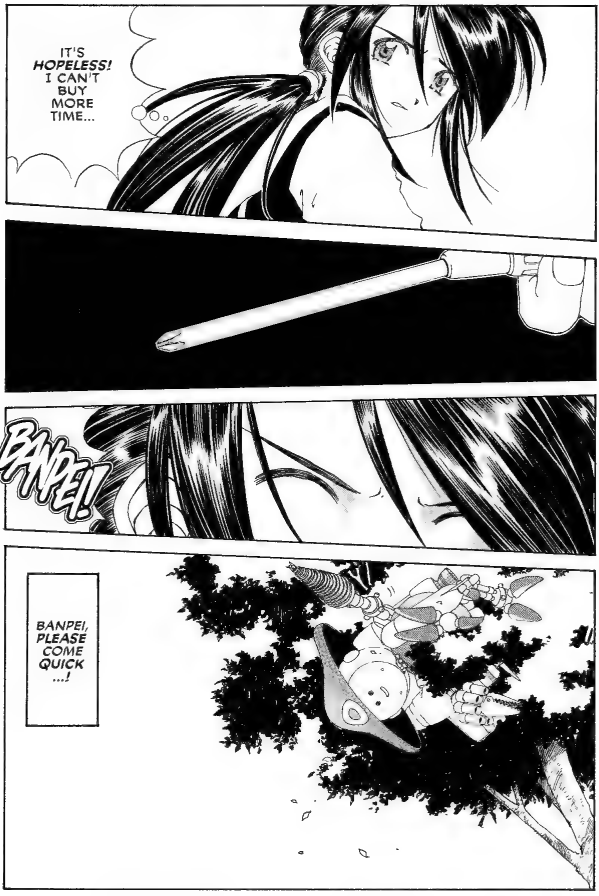

UM...
WELCOME TO WHIRLWIND! WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?


OH, I'M SO SORRY SIR. WE DON'T SERVICE AIRCRAFT.
UH... NO..
NOT YET..
GIRL WIND
IT...
...UP IN THE SKY...?

THE LABORATORY OF DR. KOICHI MOROZUMI
NOW!
HRM ...?
HOLD IT!

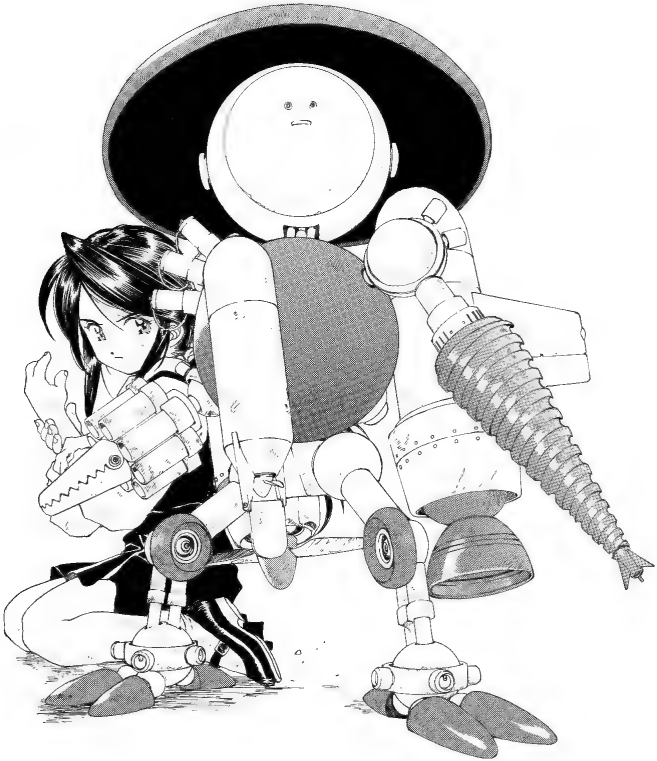
IF I WANTED TO OPERATE ON *YOU*...
...WHAT WOULD *YOU* DO?
I'D *REFUSE*, OF COURSE.
THEN... YOU SEE?
WHAT *YOU'RE* DOING TO *ME*...
...IS *JUST* THE *SAME!*

I'M HUMAN, AND...
...YOU'RE JUST A MACHINE.
IRRELE-VANT.


IT'S HOPELESS! I CAN'T BUY MORE TIME...
BANPEI!
BANPEI, PLEASE COME QUICK ...!

CHAPTER 118

The Sign of Life



HO HO HO!
HRMM ...! FASCINATING.

YOU'LL PUT ME BACK TOGETHER... *RIGHT?*
HRM. OF COURSE, OF COURSE.
OOPS.
SO YOU *SAY.*
SO AFTER ALL YOUR BIG TALK...
...YOU'RE JUST *LETTING* ME DO THIS?

...
BWA HA HA HA!
I GATHER YOU'VE *GIVEN UP*, THEN!
...WRONG.
EVEN *NOW*, WHEN IT'S COME TO *THIS*...
...SOME WAY, SOMEHOW... I STILL *TRUST* HIM TO COME.

HMM ...?
AND THAT'S WHY...
WHAT'S THAT ...?!

...THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD JUST GIVE UP, DOC!

WHOOM
ARRRH!
I'VE GOT THIS *REALLY* BAD ALGORITHMIC CALCULATION...
--UH?
AHH--

SPRAKK
EEK! I KNEW IT!
SKRASH

IT'S THE REAL ONE!!
...EGAD!!
GET OFF ME AND DO SOME-THING!
カキーン
KSNAK

...NAIVE FOOL!
I STUDIED YOUR SWITCHES INSIDE AND OUT!
BWA HA HA!!
カキン
CLANK
きゅうう…ん
VEEEE

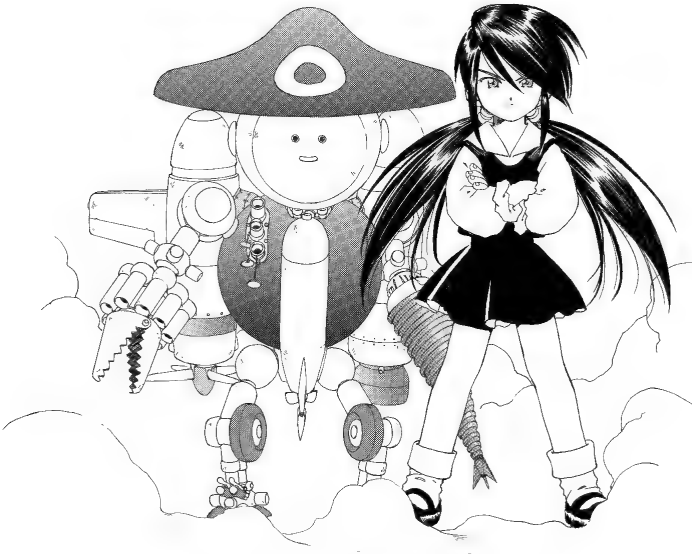
CHK
...SEEMS LIKE TODAY IS MY LUCKY DAY!
NOW I HAVE TWO SAMPLES, WITHOUT LIFTING A FINGER!
SHKK SHKK
SHKKA SHKKA

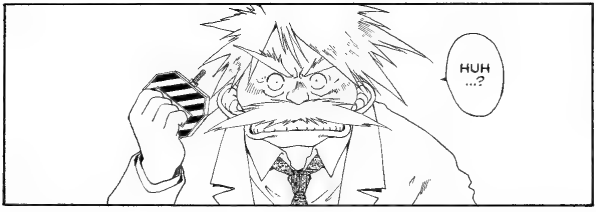
ヒュー
BOING
ヒュー
BOING
CRASH!
VREEEE!
うぃぃん
SNATCH
HRM ...?!

ガガガガガガガガ
CHAAA!
...WHY DID IT START UP AGAIN?
ひょん
CHAK!
HAH! LIVELY LITTLE DEVIL, AREN'T YOU?!
OOOH!!
HOW VERY... ANNOYING!

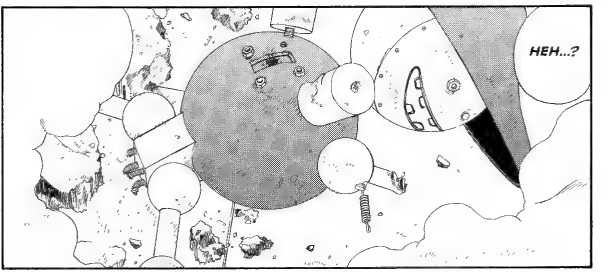
HRM?!
ガキン
A SMOKE SCREEN ?!
ハミュ
モクモク
ポッ POFF
ポッ POFF
ハッ POFF

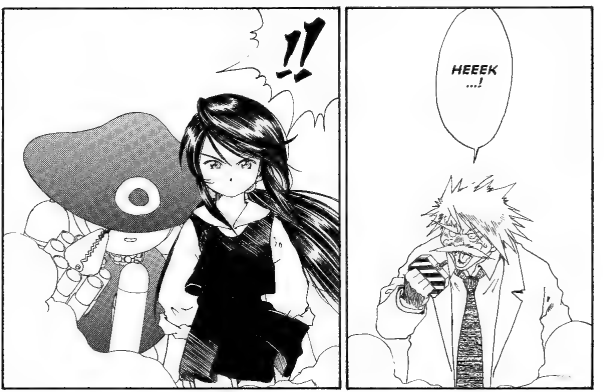
BMPH!!
ガキーン
SPARK
...THAT STUFF WON'T STOP ME!!
HMF.
WELL, WHAT-EVER WORKS.
...
もわっ
555hhhh




HUH ...?

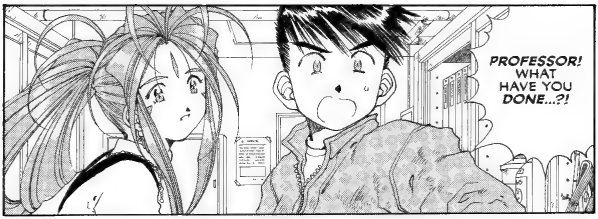
HAH...?

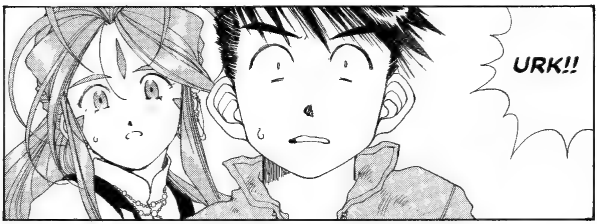

HEH...?

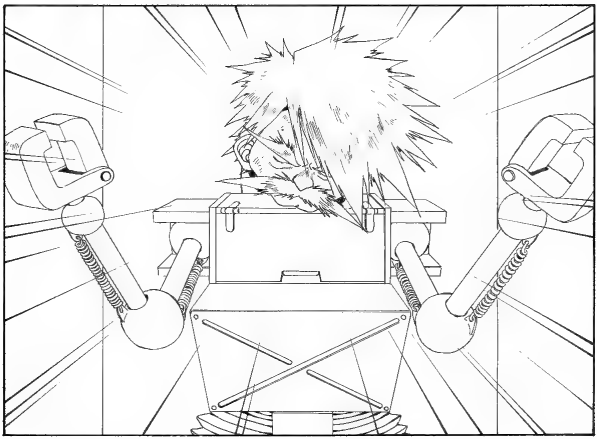

!!
HEEEK ...!

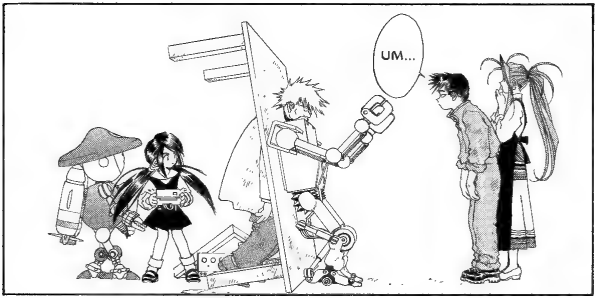
OF COURSE... YOU TWO KNOW ASIMOV'S THREE LAWS OF ROBOTICS ...?
HEH, HEH... NOW, THEN...
NOT AT ALL, I'M AFRAID.
ZREEEE
HELPP!
うわああ

THAT WAS THE PROF!
HELP!!
!!
I FIGURED HE WOULDN'T GIVE UP, BUT...
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

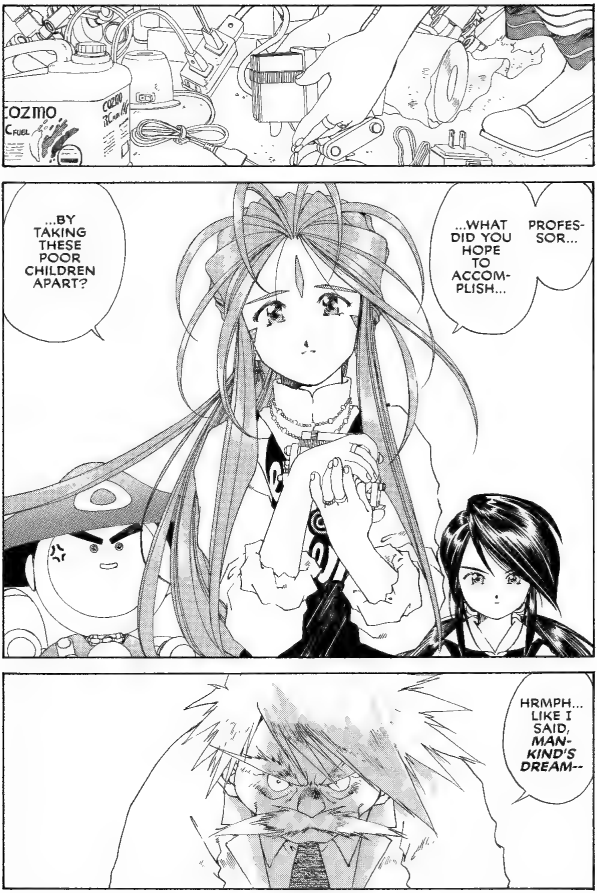

PROFESSOR! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE...?!

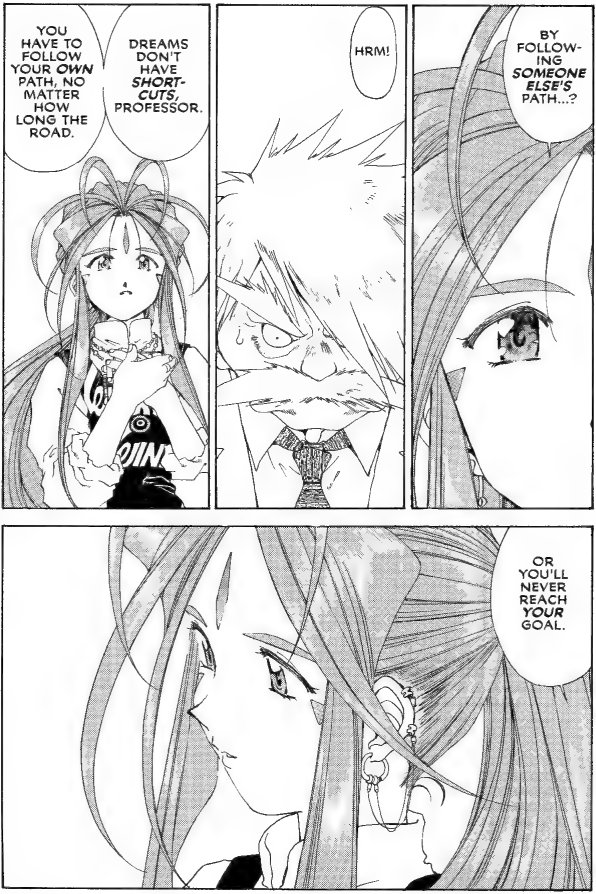

URK!!

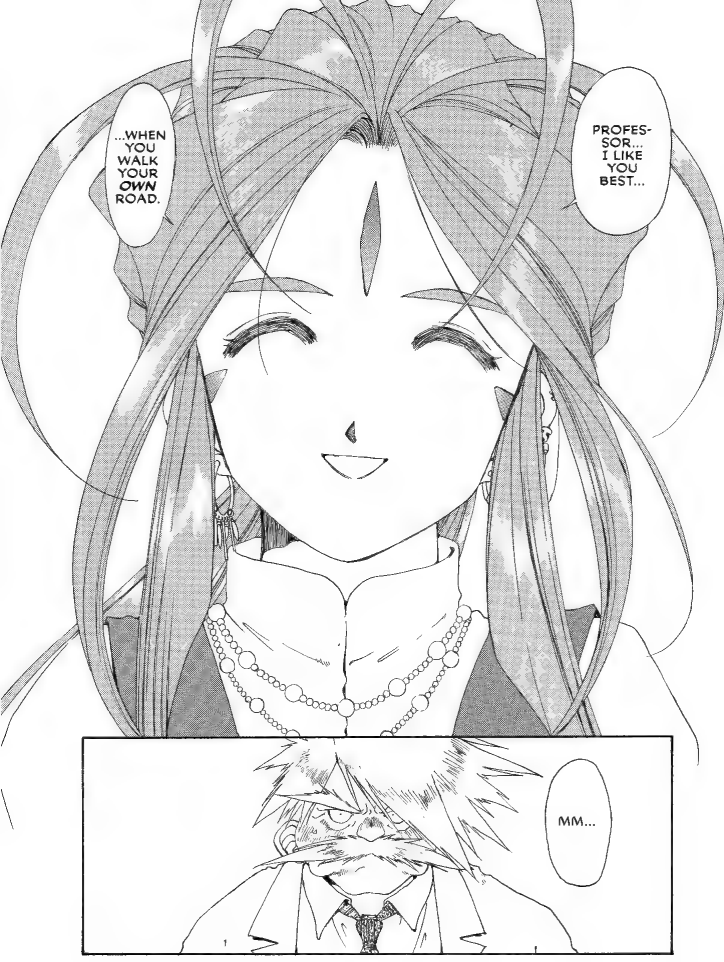



UM...

...CONSIDERING WHAT HE *DID*...
SEEMS FAIR ENOUGH.
WELL, UH, *GEE*...
"JUST" *MACHINES*, HE CALLED US. I THOUGHT I'D TREAT HIM THE SAME WAY.
YOU SEE NOW...?


COZMO
FUEL
PROFES-SOR...
...WHAT DID YOU HOPE TO ACCOM-PLISH...
...BY TAKING THESE POOR CHILDREN APART?
HRMPH... LIKE I SAID, MAN-KIND'S DREAM--


YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW YOUR *OWN* PATH, NO MATTER HOW LONG THE ROAD.
DREAMS DON'T HAVE *SHORT-CUTS*, PROFESSOR.
HRM!
BY FOLLOW-ING *SOMEONE ELSE'S* PATH...?
OR YOU'LL NEVER REACH *YOUR* GOAL.


...WHEN YOU WALK YOUR OWN ROAD.
PROFES-SOR... I LIKE YOU BEST...
MM...

LOOK... EVEN THESE LITTLE CHILDREN...
...WANT ...
...WANT TO WALK...
!!

YOU HEAR THEM, DON'T YOU, PROFESSOR?

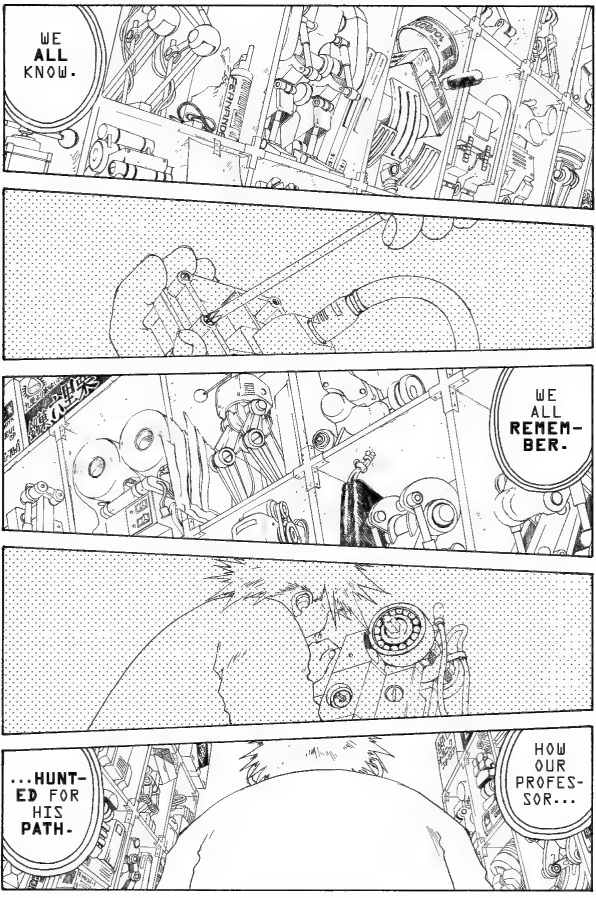
HELP US WALK!

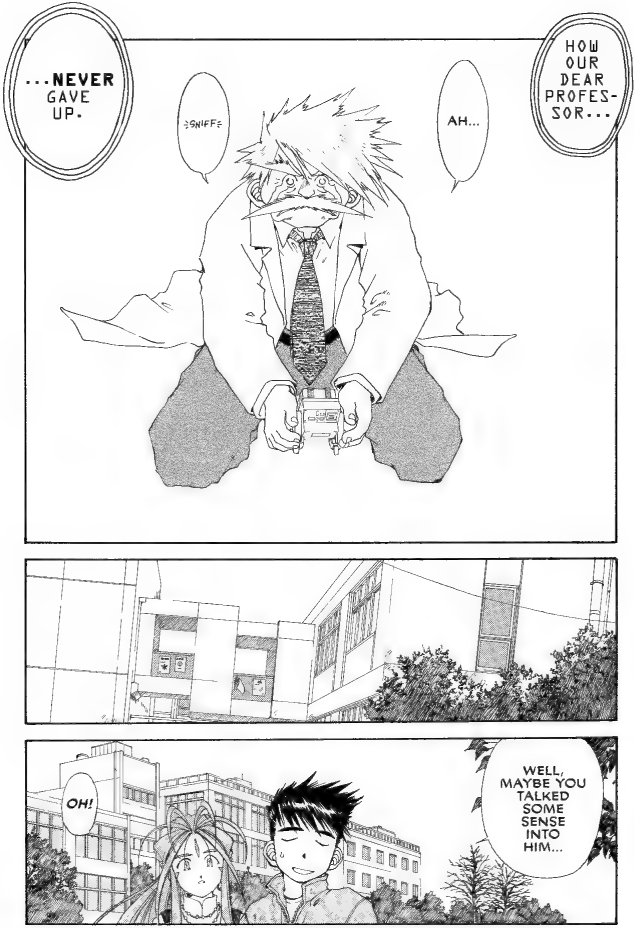
HELP US WALK!

HELP US WALK!

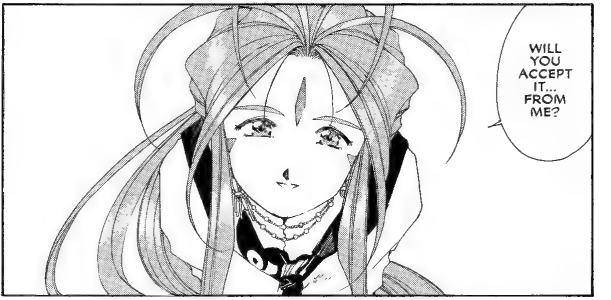
DON'T GIVE UP!

YOU CAN DO IT!

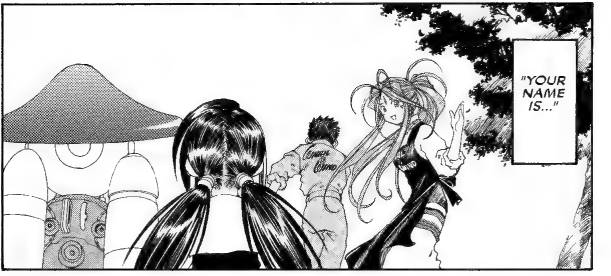

WE ALL KNOW.
WE ALL REMEMBER.
HOW OUR PROFESSOR...
...HUNTED FOR HIS PATH.


...NEVER GAVE UP.
:SNIFF:
AH...
HOW OUR DEAR PROFES-SOR...
OH!
WELL, MAYBE YOU TALKED SOME SENSE INTO HIM...

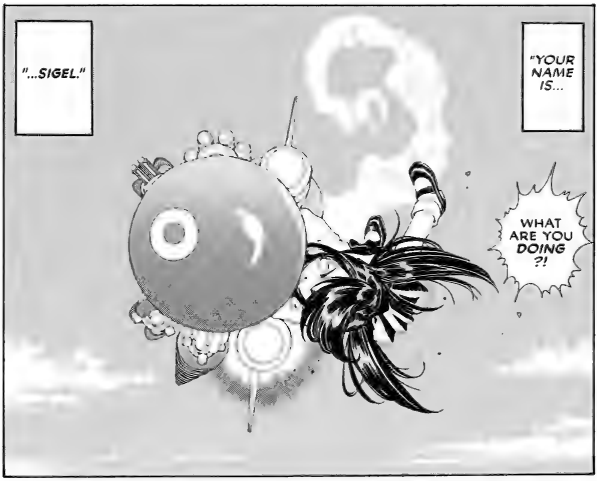
SORRY, GUYS! WE GOT WORK TO DO!
UH- OH! IT'S ALMOST OVER!
OUR LUNCH BREAK...
HUH?
OH! THAT'S RIGHT!
SO I THOUGHT OF A NAME FOR YOU.
WE CAN'T JUST KEEP CALLING YOU THE "WELCOME ROBOT."

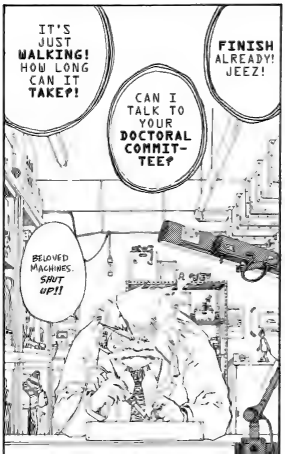

WILL YOU ACCEPT IT... FROM ME?

WELL... IF IT'S A GOOD ONE...
...I MIGHT.


"YOUR NAME IS..."

CAN YOU GIVE ME A RIDE, BANPEI ...?
THAT DARN MAD SCIENTIST BROKE MY ROLLERS.
EEK!

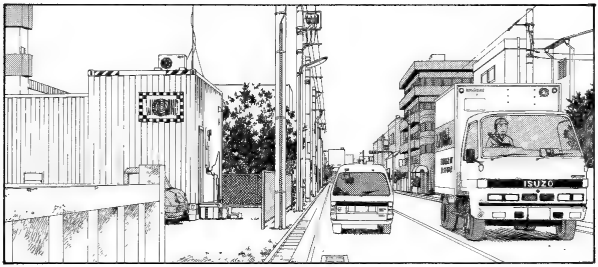




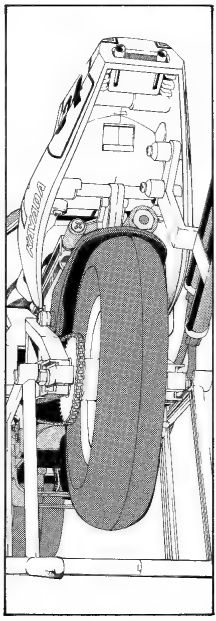
AND SO, DR. MOREAU, HAVING HEARD THE VOICES OF HIS BELOVED MACHINES, WAS INSPIRED TO FINISH ALONG THE ROAD HE STARTED.

CHAPTER 119

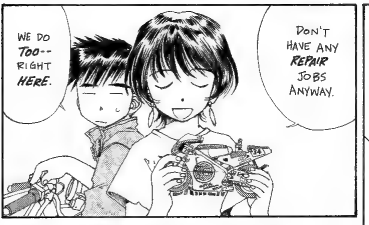
Let's Elect the New Director!


ISUZU

UHH... BOSS?



IS BUSINESS *THAT* SLOW?
GEAR OIL
GEAR OIL


WE DO *TOO*-- RIGHT *HERE*.
DON'T HAVE ANY *REPAIR* JOBS ANYWAY.

AND I'M WAITING ON *PARTS* FOR THAT BIKE I'M BUILDING.
I HAVE TO STAY DEXTER-OUS!

THEN THE NEXT ONE'S *YOURS*.
THAT'S *YOUR* REPAIR JOB, MORISATO.

WELCOME ...!

BUT MAYBE I CAN LEARN FROM HER...
YES, DO COME IN!
MAN, SHE CAN TURN IT ON...
tap tap
WHA?! BUT THE NEXT ONE IS SUP--
HAVE FUN!
IT'S FOR YOU, MORI-SATO.

HASE-GAWA ...?
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, SIR...
WHAT'S WRONG? SOMEONE MISTAKE YOU FOR A JUNIOR-HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT AGAIN?
NO, SIR.

MAY I SUBMIT IT TO THE STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE, SIR?
...AND SO, THAT'S MY ANNUAL FINANCE REPORT FOR NEKOMI TECH MOTOR CLUB.
EH ..?!
...WHY ARE YOU REPORTING IT TO ME?
BUT...
...SURE.
UM, YEAH...
WELL... YEAH.
Nekomi Tech Motor Club Financial Report
B-BECAUSE I CAN'T SUBMIT IT WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE CLUB DIRECTOR... RIGHT?
...
AND SO... IS IT OKAY?

SO...
NO!
...DIDN'T YOU GUYS EVER APPOINT A NEW CLUB DIRECTOR?
HASE-GAWA...
STILL THE...
DIRECTOR!
...THAT'S WHY I'M REPORTING TO YOU, SIR.

THAT'S *EASY* TO REMEDY.
KEIICHI?
WE CAN JUST NAME A SUCCESSOR *NOW!*
EH?

GOOD THINKING, BELL!
SURE *IS!*
B-BUT ...?
RIGHT ON! NOW *THERE'S* A GOOD IDEA!
WHAT?
UM...
WHO?!

AND SO...
...HASEGAWA...
...IS MY APPOINTED SUCCESSOR!
WHA--?!

WE HEREBY *ABJURE* AND *REPUDIATE* THE APPOINTMENT OF *DIRECTOR HASEGAWA!*
WE *OBJECT!*
WELL, I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU...
OHH
PARDON... 'SCUSE US... JUST A SEC...
WE DON'T OBJECT!
SPEAK FOR *YOUR-SELF*, DUDE!

HAVE YOU THOUGHT THIS *THROUGH*, GENTLE-MEN?
WE *WANT* HER TO DO THAT DIRECTOR STUFF! IT'S A *PAIN*, MAN.
HM...
CONTEM-PLATE, IF YOU WILL... *DIRECTOR HASE-GAWA!*
Like, what IF--
WHUT should I DEW?!
Oh my GAWD!

--they think I'm just, like, a... JUNIOR-HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT?!
A CONVINC-ING SIMULATION.
TERRIFYING IN ITS REALISM.
YOU SEE?
NO, SIR... THEY'RE RIGHT.
UM, BUT JUST A SECOND AGO--
--OVER OUR DEAD BODIES !!
SHE'LL BE DIREC-TOR--

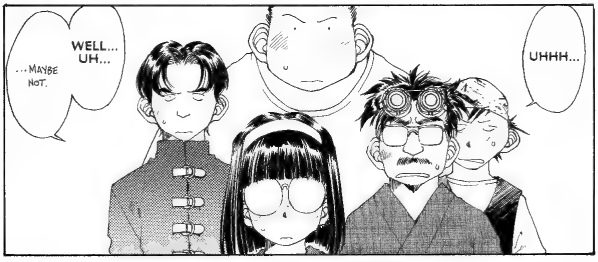
IT'S UN-DEMUH-CRAT!
YEAH, NO FAIR AN' STUFF!
...MAYBE IT'S NOT FAIR...
...
I-I MEAN...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ...?
I'M, UM, MOVED BY YOUR ELOQUENCE.
QHIRL
YOU CAN DRAW LOTS TO DECIDE!
HOW ABOUT THIS?

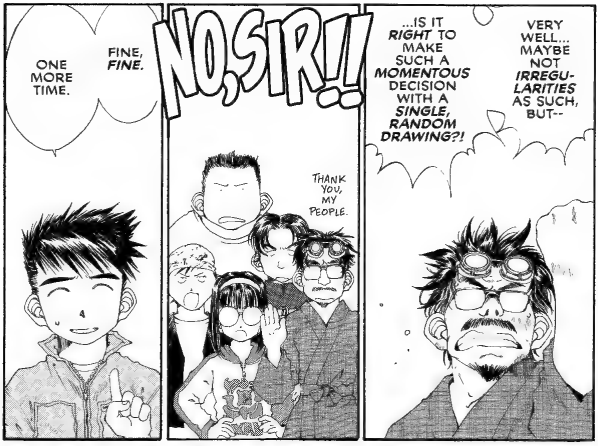
...REASON-ABLE.
HRM...
きゅっ skritch
READY?

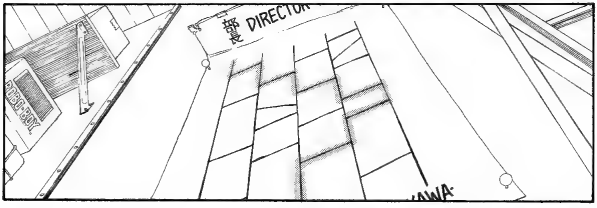
EEK!

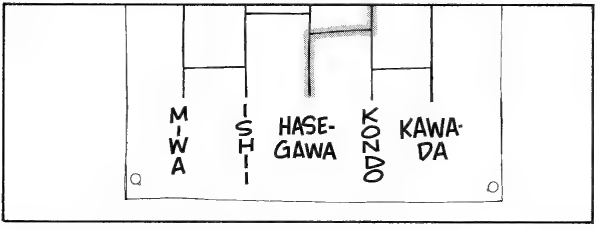
おめでとーっ
CONGRATULATIONS!
...
THERE MUST BE A MISTAKE!
WE HAVE TO DO IT AGAIN!
そ…
YEAH... YEAH!
GUYS, COME ON...
YEAH! HER PARTISAN MADE THE LOTS!
INDEED! I BELIEVE THERE WERE IRREGULARITIES!

...IS THIS THE FACE OF A CHEATER?!

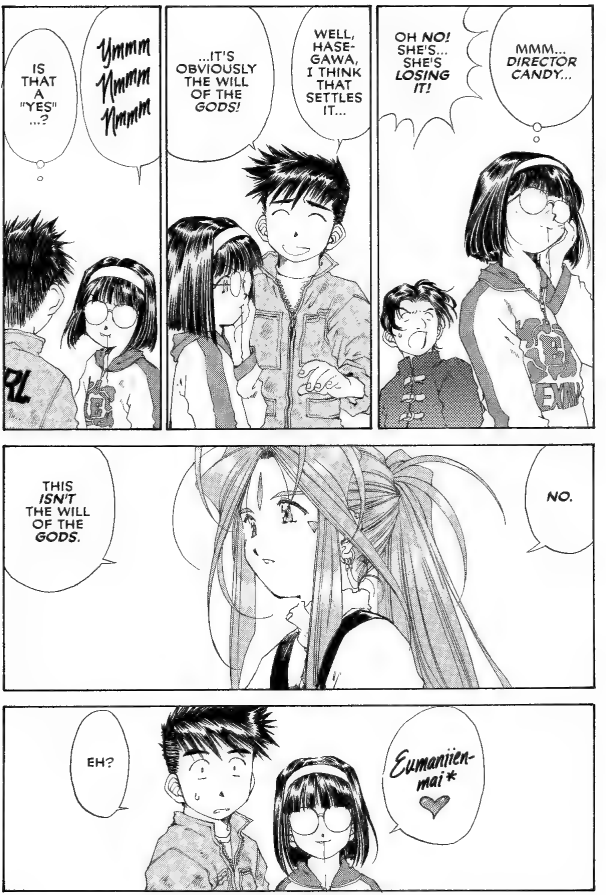

WELL... UH...
...MAYBE NOT.
UHHH...


ONE MORE TIME.
FINE, FINE.
NO, SIR!!
THANK YOU, MY PEOPLE.
...IS IT RIGHT TO MAKE SUCH A MOMENTOUS DECISION WITH A SINGLE, RANDOM DRAWING?!
VERY WELL... MAYBE NOT IRREGULARITIES AS SUCH, BUT--


DIRECTOR

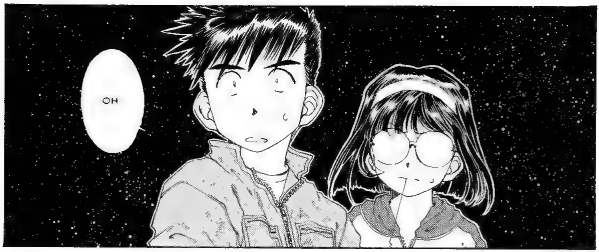

MIWA
ISHII
HASEGAWA
KONDO
KAWADA

UH...
...
HASEGAWA WINS THE DIRECTOR DICE!
ONE MORE TIME!
HASEGAWA WINS THE DIRECTOR DARTS!
ONE MORE TIME!!
SHNNNK
...HASEGAWA WINS THE DIRECTOR CANDY!!
SHIFF
TUG


MMM... DIRECTOR CANDY...
OH NO! SHE'S... SHE'S LOSING IT!
WELL, HASEGAWA, I THINK THAT SETTLES IT...
...IT'S OBVIOUSLY THE WILL OF THE GODS!
Ymmm Nmmm Nmmm
IS THAT A "YES" ...?
NO.
THIS ISN'T THE WILL OF THE GODS.
EH?
Eumaniien-mai*

*She's probably saying "Belldandy-sempai."

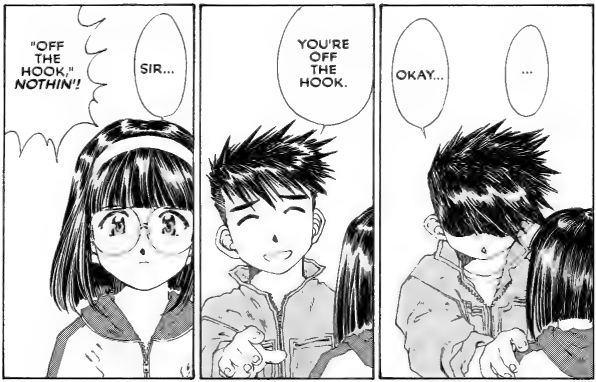
...IT'S THE WILL OF THE *UNIVERSE* ITSELF.
WHIRL WIND


OH

OR MAYBE... I... I STILL SHOULDN'T DO IT.

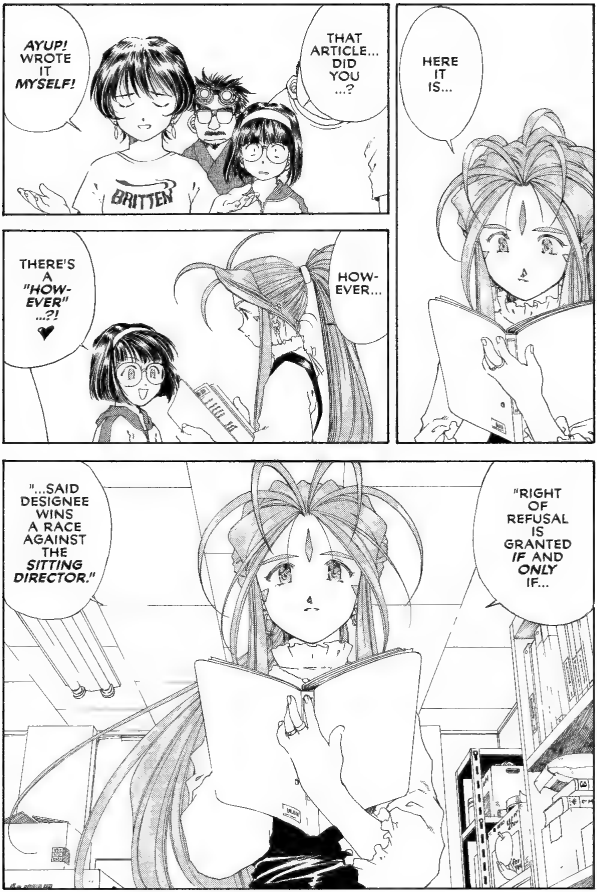
CAN'T FIGHT THE "WILL OF THE UNIVERSE" ...!
THERE YA GO, HASEGAWA!
NOW HE'S LOSING IT.

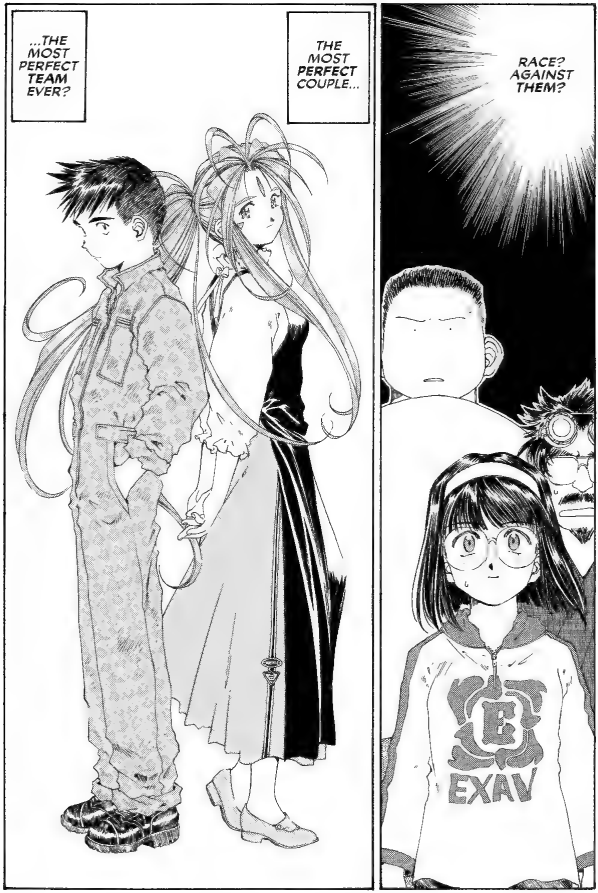
I- I'M SORRY.
...BUT I STILL CAN'T DO IT.


"OFF THE HOOK," NOTHIN'!
SIR...
YOU'RE OFF THE HOOK.
OKAY...
...

"MEMBERS DESIGNATED BY THE DIRECTOR SHALL IN PRINCIPLE BE DENIED THE RIGHT OF REFUSAL"!
NIT MOTOR CLUB ARTICLE TWENTY-SIX!
BRITTEN

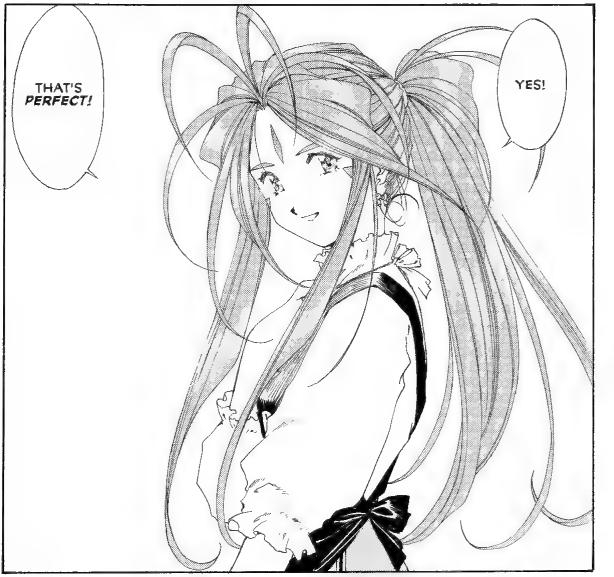
BOSS ...?!
!!
HOW CAN I WORK WHEN THE MOTOR CLUB'S IN CRISIS?
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BOTHER WITH THIS...?
YES, MA'AM.
IN ANY CASE, CHECK THE REGS.
WHAT'S YOUR POINT AGAIN?
UH, BOSS, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WORKING!

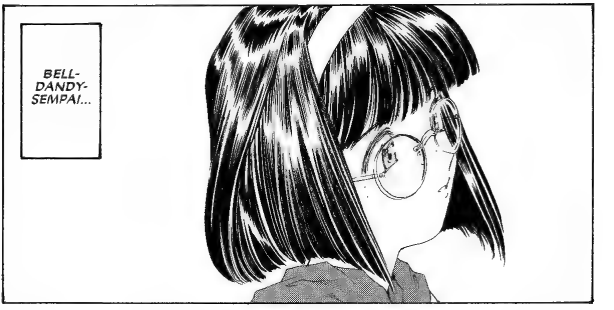

AYUP! WROTE IT MYSELF!
THAT ARTICLE... DID YOU ...?
BRITTEN
HERE IT IS...
THERE'S A "HOW-EVER" ...?!
HOW-EVER...
"...SAID DESIGNEE WINS A RACE AGAINST THE SITTING DIRECTOR."
"RIGHT OF REFUSAL IS GRANTED IF AND ONLY IF...


...THE MOST PERFECT TEAM EVER?
THE MOST PERFECT COUPLE...
RACE? AGAINST THEM?
EXAV

...
I'LL DO IT.
IT'S BETTER THAN DOING NOTHING AT ALL.
ARE YOU MENTAL? YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE!
SURE SHE DOES.
BRITTEN

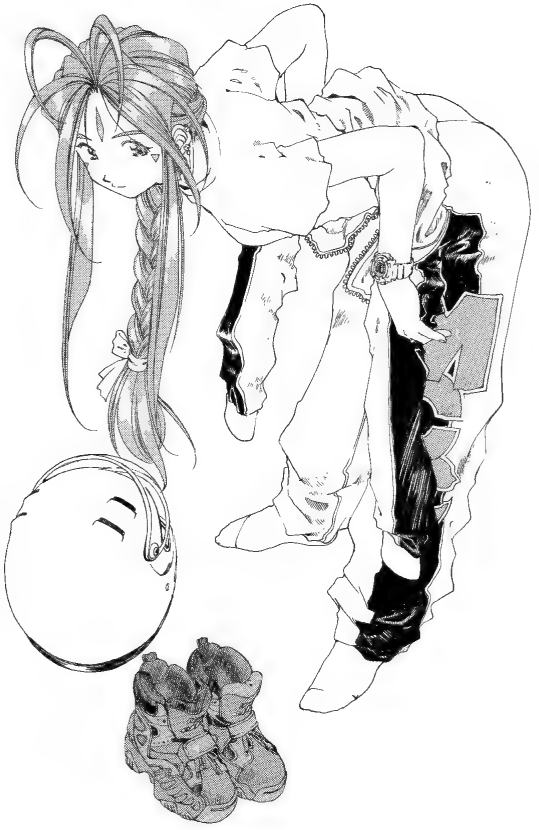
...ON HASEGAWA'S TEAM.
I'M PUTTING BELL-DANDY...
BRITTEN
EH?!
THAT OKAY WITH YOU, BELL?


THAT'S PERFECT!
YES!


BELL-DANDY-SEMPAI...

CHAPTER 120

Race Rules



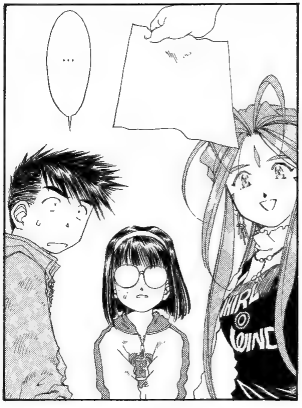
"Members designated by the director shall in principle be denied the right of refusal."
NIT Motor Club Article 26:
"...right of refusal is granted if and only if...
Sitting Director
"However...
Director Designee
...ON HASEGAWA'S TEAM.
I'M PUTTING BELL-DANDY...
"...said designee wins a race against the sitting director."
BRITTEN

THAT'S PERFECT!
YES!
OKAY...
BELL-DANDY-SEMPAI...

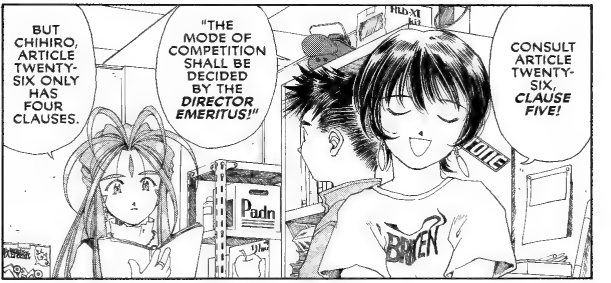
IT'S IN THE BAG!
I HOPE...
HAW! HAW!
...
YES, GOOD POINT..
SHE DOESN'T RIDE MOTORCYCLES, SO WHAT SHALL WE RACE?
NOT A PROBLEM!

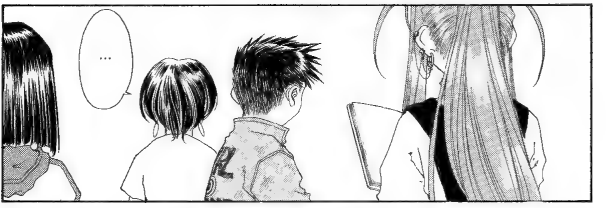
BEHOLD!
MINI GO-KART!
New
CHEAP DRIVING THRILLS! SCREAMING SPEED YOU WON'T BELIEVE!

EVEN HASEGAWA CAN HANDLE THIS!
MINI GO-KART!

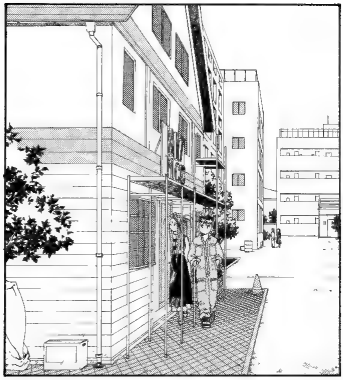

...

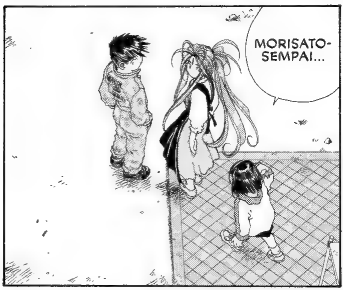
...IT STOLE MY HEART!
ANOTHER TOY, BOSS?
WELL, IT... IT...
HOW COULD I RESIST? DARLING LITTLE TIRES!
A FORTY CC, THIRTY-FIVE PS ENGINE!
FOOT-CONTROLLED BRAKES AND GAS!
YEAH, OKAY, CUTE.
BUT WHY ARE YOU DECIDING EVERYTHING, BOSS?

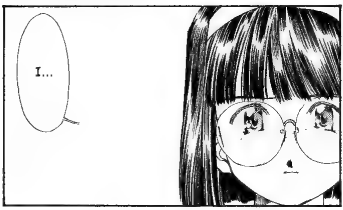

BUT CHIHIRO, ARTICLE TWENTY-SIX ONLY HAS FOUR CLAUSES.
"THE MODE OF COMPETITION SHALL BE DECIDED BY THE *DIRECTOR EMERITUS!*"
CONSULT ARTICLE TWENTY-SIX, *CLAUSE FIVE!*
TOILET
BOWEN
Padu


...

♪
ARTICLE 26, CLAUSE 1:
The competition must take place within three days of its announcement. In emergencies, this may be extended for two days, but only by the agreement of all parties.
CLAUSE 4:
If the competition is not held within this time period, the party seeking the extension has to be declared the loser by default.
CLAUSE 5:
The mode of competition shall be decided by the Director Emeritus, if the
ch-ch-ch-ch-ch
OKAY.
GIMME THAT.



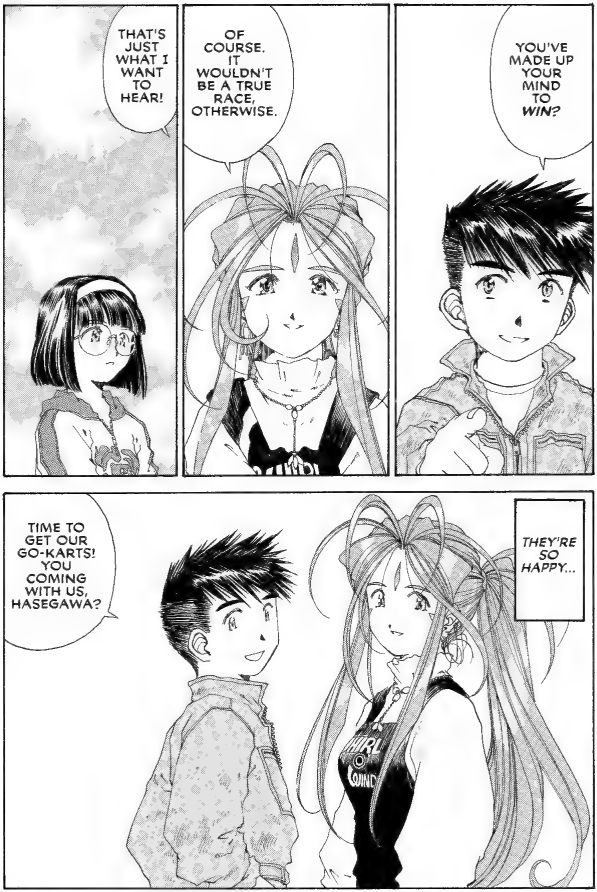

MORISATO-SEMPAI...


I...

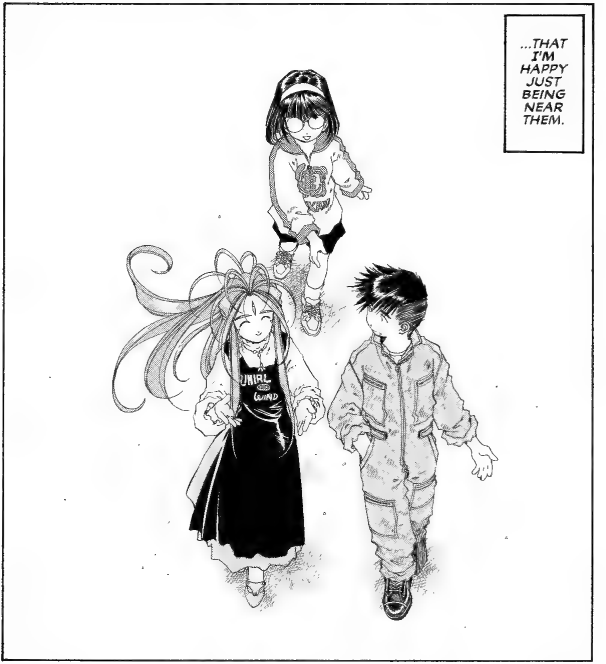
COME BY THE SHOP LATER FOR YOUR *GO-KARTS!*
SHOW-DOWN IN *THREE DAYS*, COURSE TO BE ANNOUNCED *THAT MORNING.*
BRITEN

...I'M SO SORRY! THIS SHOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED!
YOU...
...YOU TWO SHOULD ALWAYS RACE TOGETHER!
ARE YOU KID-DING?
AND NOW YOU WON'T-- BECAUSE OF ME...

THIS IS GONNA BE A *BLAST!*
WHAT?
IF NOT FOR THIS RACE...
...KEIICHI AND I MIGHT *NEVER* HAVE A CHANCE TO COMPETE.


THAT'S JUST WHAT I WANT TO HEAR!
OF COURSE. IT WOULDN'T BE A TRUE RACE, OTHERWISE.
YOU'VE MADE UP YOUR MIND TO *WIN?*
TIME TO GET OUR GO-KARTS! YOU COMING WITH US, HASEGAWA?
THEY'RE SO HAPPY...

YES.
YES!
AHH...


...THAT I'M HAPPY JUST BEING NEAR THEM.

THIS WAY'S FASTER.
HM?
WAIT!
YEP!
IT IS?

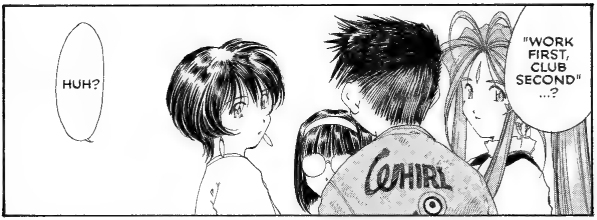
EXAV
TAA-DAA!
EXAV
THE FRONT GATE!

HEH HEH
WOW, HASEGAWA... THAT'S *INCREDIBLE!*
SO I KNOW *ALL* THE SHORT-CUTS.
I HAVE TO WALK TO STUDENT SERVICES A LOT FOR OUR BUDGET.
YOU SEE, SHORTCUTS AREN'T JUST DIRECTIONS... THEY'RE SCHEDULES, TOO! YOUR OPTIONS OPEN AND CLOSE AROUND THE CLOCK!
HUH?
THIS ROUTE ONLY HAPPENS TO BE OPEN BETWEEN NINE A.M. AND NOON.
SIR...? YOU *CAN'T.*
THIS IS *GREAT!* WE'LL GO BACK THAT WAY, TOO...

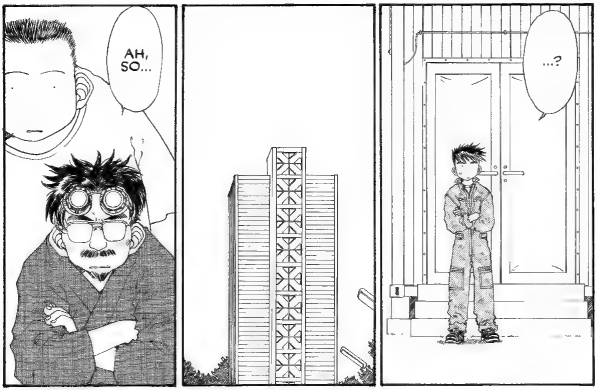
THERE'S ALSO A SECRET ROUTE...
...BUT IT WOULDN'T DO FOR YOU, SIR.
HOO HOO TEE HEE
WHO KNEW SHE WAS SO SLY...?
BUT THAT KIND OF CURIOSITY... MIGHT MAKE HER A GOOD DIRECTOR...

ISN'T IT THE SWEET-EST?
IT'S SO... TINY.
NOTH-ING! NADA!
HMM ...?
NAW, IT'S NOTH-ING!
MA'AM ...?
ON SECOND THOUGHT...
I THINK I CAN DO THIS!

WORK *FIRST*... CLUB *SECOND!*
KI, YOU'RE STAYING *HERE.*
RIGHT! LET'S GET BACK TO CAMPUS AND *PRACTICE!*
YOU HAVE A *JOB* TO FINISH.
S-SORRY?
BRITTEN
RIGHT! LET'S GET BACK TO CAMPUS AND *PRACTICE!*
GNGG...
BRITTEN


HUH?
"WORK FIRST, CLUB SECOND" ...?
COWGIRL

MY WORK.
THIS IS WORK.


AH, SO...
...?

...A CONVEY-ANCE EVEN HASEGAWA CAN MANAGE.
EH?
EXCEPT FOR...
...OH, NOTH-ING...
SHAK
BRMBAAH

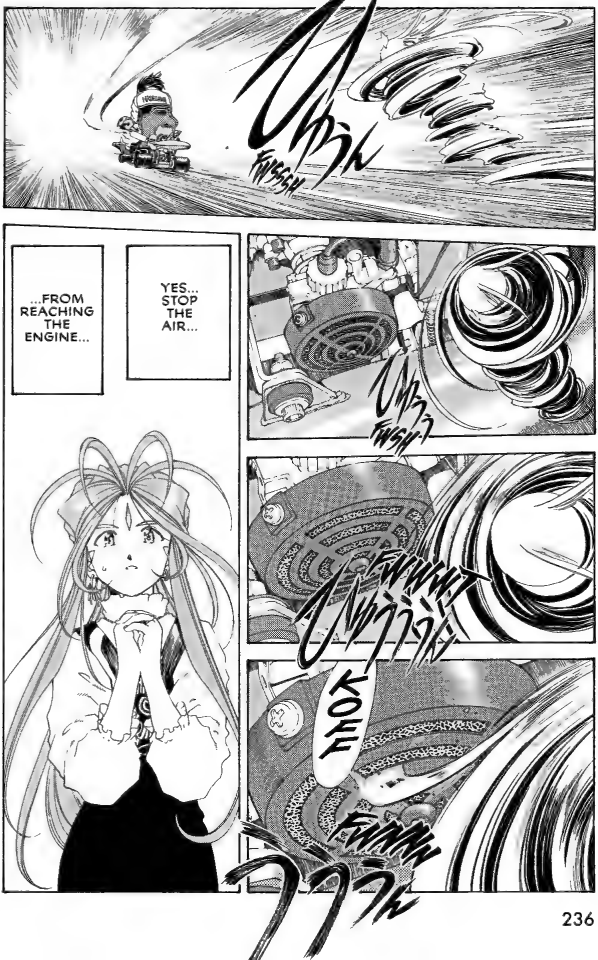
MISS CHIHIRO, DOES THIS GO FAST?
WHAAT ?!
NOT *TOO* FAST. IT TOPS OUT AT *FIFTY KPH.*
BRITTEN
HASE-GAWA! WAIT!
IS *THAT* ALL? JUST FIFTY...?

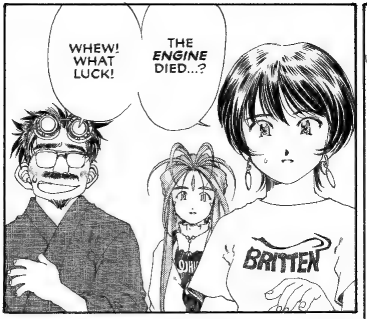
I CAN HANDLE THAT, NO--
GRNK
BWHAAAA
YII!

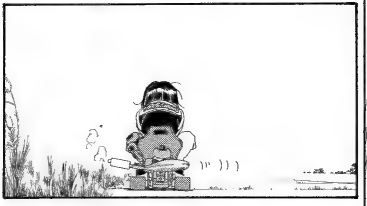
EEEE!!

Spirits of Air and Pressure...
...Ye Who Fashion the Cyclone...
AAAAA!!
HASEGAWA, THE BRAKE! HIT THE BRAKE!

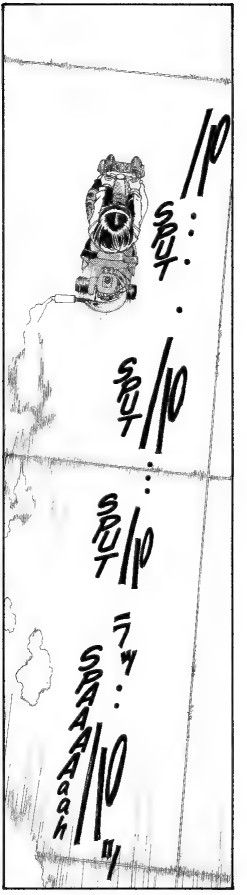
Gather up the Source of its Power!
~AIRBUG and SPIRALEE!
Riders of the Winds~
FWSSH
AWAY!


FWOOSH
...FROM REACHING THE ENGINE...
YES... STOP THE AIR...
FWSH
KOEE
FWWW


WHEW! WHAT LUCK!
THE ENGINE DIED...?
BRITTEN

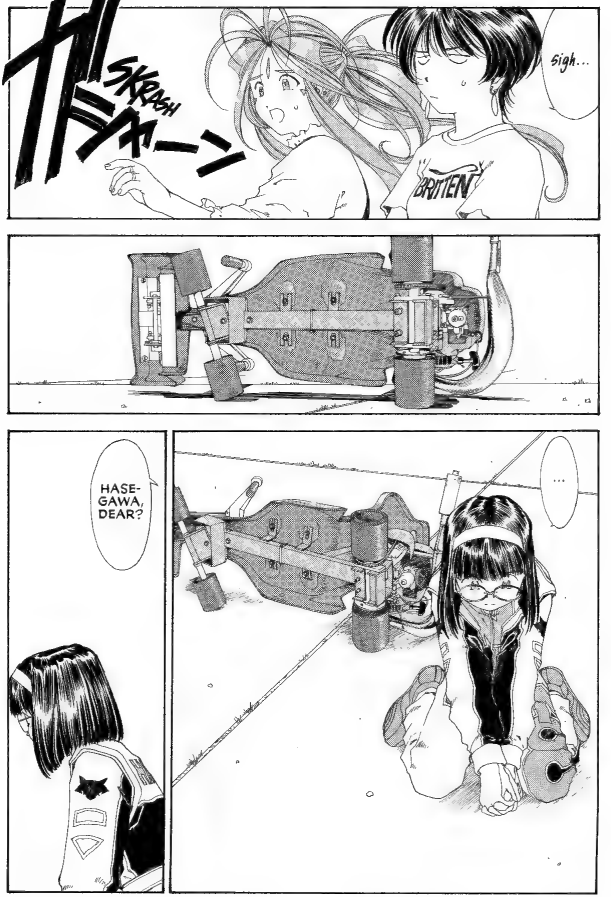


=hahhh=
=haggn=
=hahhn=


ﾋｭｰ
ﾋｭｰ
ﾋｭｰ
ﾗｯ
ﾋｭｰ
AAAAAaah

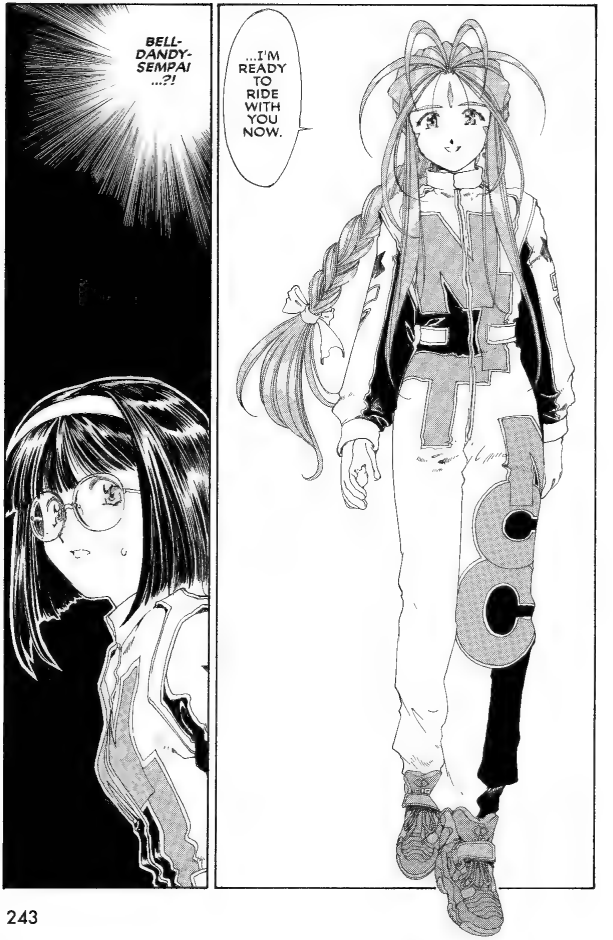
HASE-GAWA...? TRY IT SLOW FOR NOW.
YES. SLOW.
PUTT PUTT PUTT PUTT
PUTT PUTT PUTT PUTT

HMM...
OKAY!
HASEGAWA! TRY A *TURN!*
BRITTEN
SHIFT YOUR WEIGHT!
...*HOW?*
UM...
LIKE THIS ...?
SHIFT... *WEIGHT...*
OH, NO.
WOBBLE


SKRASH
sigh...
BRITTEN
HASE-GAWA, DEAR?
...

...OF THIS LITTLE CART?
ARE YOU AFRAID...
IT'S TOO *FAST*, AND TOO *CLOSE* TO THE *GROUND!*
YES, I AM!
...LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT THE RACE, WHATEVER. I DON'T CARE ANY-MORE.
...

IT'S WORTH A SHOT.
...WHY NOT?
...?
SURE...
CHIHIRO, MAY WE TALK?
?
BRITTEN
GIRL WIND
STEP


BELL-DANDY-SEMPAI ...?!
...I'M READY TO RIDE WITH YOU NOW.

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English-language version
produced by Dark Horse Comics

OH MY GODDESS! Vol. 19

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Welcome back, everybody—*minna-san okaeri*. (*Okaeri* is what Chihiro said to her old bike in the original Japanese on page 32. Not to suggest you look like you've been dragged up a cliff. ^_^) As you probably know, volume 19 is the second-to-last of Dark Horse's reissue of the early volumes of *Oh My Goddess!* (volumes 1–20) that we previously released in flopped, Westernized form. After this, the next volume will be vol. 40 in December, and then in February 2012, the last of the reissued early *OMG!*, vol. 20. From then on out, we will continue to release the newest volumes of *Oh My Goddess!*—volumes 41, 42, and so on . . . as long as Fujishima-*sensei* keeps doing them!

On the subject of the reissued volumes, Philip Ngui from the United Kingdom prefaced an inquiry with *"Although I doubt I'll see this letter being printed in your upcoming volumes soon . . ."* (which only goes to show just how well he knows this edition :D). He wanted to know if there was any chance of Dark Horse doing a second printing of some of the early non-westernized volumes (i.e., vol. 21 on), because prices online were starting to get pretty high. Checking Amazon, I see vols. 21–25 are all in the range of eight to nine US dollars, so it looks as if the situation has indeed improved.

Philip also wanted to know about whether Dark Horse would consider releasing an English edition of the 2008 *Oh My Goddess!* art book (as it has a long interview with Kosuke Fujishima), which we actually discussed a little in the Enchantress section of *Oh My Goddess!* vol. 39. We are certainly considering it, as it would make a nice companion to our English edition of *Oh My Goddess! Colors*, and of course, we recently did something similar with an English edition of *The Art of Blade of the Immortal*.

Also writing in from the UK is Chris Cox, who says:

I just wanted to say how much I love the *OMG!* series. I only discovered it a few months ago by complete accident on YouTube and just loved it so much, so I've been importing all volumes of the books. I'm so far up to volume 24.

I know sometimes people give *Oh My Goddess!* stick because Belldandy and Keiichi don't openly show their

love—physically, if you see my meaning—but I don't think it's a bad thing. I believe it's a clever way of writing and I'd just like to say how much I've enjoyed the series so far.

Can I just ask—I know there's been an *OMG!* novel **[*Oh My Goddess! First End* by Urd's Japanese voice actor, Yumi Tohma—published by Dark Horse, of course!—CGH]** but apparently it had a bit of an open-ended ending, so will there be a second novel to continue what happens afterwards?

Also, I hope the twentieth-anniversary OVA will be released in English.

Anyway, just wanted to say thank you for publishing such an amazing series—all the best from the UK.

Thank you, Chris—and thank you for supporting the manga! I love the British expression "to give stick" to something, which, as you might guess, means to attack or criticize (as if you're whacking it with a stick, I dare say). Of course, the fact Belldandy and Keiichi are not very physical in their relationship (a hug is still a big event for them) is something people like Urd and Megumi have made fun of, too.

I think they were actually more physical in the earliest volumes, and have become less so over time (as noted in *OMG! Colors*'s section "Great Moments in the Plot of *Oh My Goddess!*"). If I had to apply my editor powers and come up with a theory to explain it, it might have something to do with the "abnormal" situation Belldandy finds herself in with Keiichi.

There's nothing wrong with the love they have for each other as two people, but I mean it's "abnormal" in the cosmic scheme of things for a goddess and a mortal to be together this way. This, of course, has been discussed in the series several times—most recently in the current "Coup in Hell" story arc that began in vol. 38. Hild mentions in vol. 39 that Belldandy's relationship with Keiichi throws the battle between gods and demons off balance, something that Bell confirms to be true. Maybe this has something to do with the fact their relationship, although very close emotionally and spiritually, remains separated in a physical sense.

I would like to see another *Oh My Goddess!* novel as well. As you mention, there have been some recent *OMG!* anime in Japan that have not yet been licensed in English, including the twentieth-anniversary two-episode *Fighting Wings*, and most recently, special episodes that are being bundled with deluxe editions of *Oh My Goddess!* Volumes 42 and 43 in Japan. It's things like this that make me regret Dark Horse doesn't release anime, ^_^ but we certainly were glad to cross-promote the manga release with the TV anime series, and we'll try to do the same when these latest *OMG!* anime are licensed—as I'm sure they will be!

—CGH

STOP! This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English, but arranged in right-to-left reading format to maintain the artwork's visual orientation as originally drawn and published in Japan. If you've never read comics this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right-hand corner, and will read each word balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take a little getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun! If this is the millionth manga you've read this way, never mind. ^_^

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 19

COLLEGE LIFE IS NEVER EASY...

All right, sometimes it is, but never at Nekomi Tech! No sooner do Keiichi and Belldandy solve the mystery of the Phantom Racer, then they get entangled in the schemes of Professor Morozumi. Better known on campus as "Dr. Moreau" for his obsession with making machines walk on two legs, this mad scientist will stop at nothing to pursue his dream . . . including kidnapping Banpei's "girlfriend," the Welcome Robot! Plus your fan art and letters!

Winner of the 33rd Kodansha Manga Award, *Oh My Goddess!* is the longest-running manga title in English!

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